Sphere

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

spherestandards.org

Humanitarian standards save lives

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Sphere is a global community that defines, promotes and applies humanitarian principles and minimum standards to ensure lifesaving, protective and accountable response to crisis.

The Sphere Handbook is a guide for people affected by crisis, volunteers, and aid workers in front-line roles, as well as humanitarian organisations, community groups, trainers, funding partners, policy makers, academics, UN agencies, government actors and others.

Our vision is that crisis-affected people actively participate in decisions and actions which impact them; have what they need to survive and recover with dignity; and are resilient to future crises.

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Letter from the President of Sphere

A year of impact: Sphere's global reach

As you turn the pages of this report, I hope you will be inspired by the stories that illustrate the impact of Sphere's global network. These accounts represent only a fraction of the dedication, expertise, and commitment that fuel our shared mission.

Sphere has always been more than a set of guidelines – it is a commitment to the dignity, rights, and well-being of those affected by crisis. The humanitarian landscape is shifting rapidly, with escalating conflicts, worsening climate disasters, and deepening vulnerabilities. In these turbulent times, Sphere's principles and standards serve as a compass, guiding us toward quality, accountability, and ethical humanitarian action.

2024 was a significant year for Sphere's engagement and advocacy. The Sphere Global Focal Point meeting in Antalya, Türkiye was an inspiring gathering that brought together committed professionals from around the world. This meeting reinforced the vital role of localised action in strengthening humanitarian response. A key example of this was the development of a digital Sphere introduction training in Turkish, making the Handbook more accessible and applicable at the local level. The localisation of humanitarian standards remains an essential step in ensuring that principles translate into practice in every context.

At the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW), one of the most important global platforms for collaboration, Sphere took a leading role in discussions on localisation, learning, and the ever-growing relevance of humanitarian standards. As crises become more complex and the sector evolves, standards are more critical than ever – not just as guiding principles, but as tools for accountability and dignity in humanitarian response.

Looking ahead, the future of humanitarian action will be shaped by digitalisation, innovation, and the continued commitment of those who believe in the power of quality and principled response. Sphere will remain at the forefront of this transformation, ensuring that humanitarian standards remain relevant, accessible, and actionable for all.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all those who advance the Sphere principles in their daily work. Together, we reaffirm our shared commitment to a humanitarian system that upholds dignity, accountability, and quality assistance for all those in need.

Alper Küçük
President, Sphere
March 2025

In memory of Maher Alabrsh (1989 – 2024)

This annual report is dedicated to our friend and colleague, Maher Alabrsh.

Maher was a dedicated and gifted humanitarian whose unexpected passing in early 2024 came as a shock, and continues to be an immense loss to the people he served in Syria and the Middle East, and the wider sector.

We had the pleasure to meet Maher in-person at HNPW in 2023, and we'll remember him for his kindness, his smiles, his sense of humour, and his consistent enthusiasm to volunteer his time and knowledge to help others. As a panellist in one event, he shared his passions for sustainable agriculture and climate-smart humanitarian programming.

To meet Maher was to become friends with him, and he was sorely missed at HNPW in May 2024 where we were looking forward to sharing the week with him.

Maher was one of our most active trainers; not only facilitating countless workshops, but creating, training and mentoring a pool of trainers in Syria. Through his training, public speaking, advocacy, and other activities, Maher truly exemplified what it means to be a Sphere Champion.

Our thoughts continue to be with Maher's family and friends, including the trainers he was mentoring, through whom his legacy will, in some way, live on.

Maher Alabrsh at HNPW 2023

1. Annual priorities

Aligned with the mid-term review of Sphere's 2021-2025 Strategy, our key priorities for 2024 focus on strengthening the reach, relevance, and impact of humanitarian standards.

A. The Sphere Handbook

Humanitarian responders make informed decisions that reduce morbidity and mortality by applying its principles and minimum standards. The Sphere Handbook continues to serve as a shared reference that enhances accountability, efficiency, and coordination in humanitarian action.

B. Strategic Partnerships

People responding to crises have streamlined access to humanitarian standards relevant to their context and stage of response. The Humanitarian Standards Partnership (HSP) is a leading authority on humanitarian standards.

C. Policy & Advocacy

Sphere principles and standards are embedded into policies and operational frameworks at all levels, from local organisations to international institutions.

D. Champions Network

Sphere standards are locally driven, strengthening national and community-based actors in their leadership and application of globally recognised humanitarian standards. This approach reinforces sustainability and enhances the effectiveness of humanitarian response.

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Sphere resources published in 2024

New

- Welcome pack for Focal Points (in English and Spanish, available on request)
- Theory of Change (in English, French, Spanish and Arabic)
- HSP Board game and postcards (in English, French, Spanish and Arabic - poster and roll-up banner available on request)
- Core Humanitarian Standard website (in English, French, Spanish and Arabic)

- HSP History page (in English, French, Spanish and Arabic)
- Sphere in Action video case study #4: Applying Sphere Health standards in Colombia (in Spanish with English captions)
- Nature-based Solutions for Humanitarians self-paced online course (in English)
- Sphere mid-term strategic review
- 2023 annual report

Translated

- The Sphere Handbook (into Farsi)
- HSP Board Game (into Indonesian)

- Sphere Training Pack (into Indonesian)
- Various Sphere and HSP videos (into Romanian)

Localised

- Sphere Handbook Activity Cards (into Romanian and Indonesian)

Revised

- Core Humanitarian Standard 2024 edition (available in several languages)

Find these and more on the Resources page of the Sphere website or the Resources page of the HSP website

2. Progress on annual priorities

A. The Sphere Handbook

To increase awareness and effective use of the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards

i. Sphere Handbook translations initiated by the global community are an indicator of the continued relevance and demand for Sphere standards. With the completion of the Farsi version during 2024, the 2018 Sphere Handbook is now available in 25 languages with a further seven translations in progress.

ii. With nearly 4,000 registrations and over 870 graduates, the Spanish MOOC (Massive Open Online Course), marked the largest Sphere MOOC to date. The course included six webinars featuring a dozen expert keynote speakers – hosted by Sphere's former Head of Practice and Policy, Aninia Nadig.

iii. Sphere's focal point for Pakistan and Asia regional partner, Community World Service Asia (CWSA), developed and launched a free self-paced online course, Using Sphere Minimum Standards in Health. The course is available in Urdu and English.

iv. Sphere supported its trainer and focal point networks to deliver a record-breaking eleven Sphere Training of Trainers (ToT) programmes – in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Ethiopia, Germany, Indonesia, Spain, Ukraine (2 events) and Türkiye (3 events).

v. Working with partners in Colombia, Sphere created a new case study video – the fourth in the Sphere in Action series – which highlights how Sphere Health standards are integrated into humanitarian efforts in Colombia. The video is filmed in Spanish, with English captions provided.

vi. Sphere collaborated with student researchers from the Geneva Graduate Institute on a nine-month project to explore Sphere's role in tertiary humanitarian education. The study, conducted across five countries, highlights Sphere's global presence in university curricula and emphasises the need for localised and context-specific educational approaches (see final report). The Sphere team started work with a new set of students for deliverables in Spring 2025.

vii. The Sphere network submitted a record-breaking 208 Sphere-related events to the Sphere Calendar, demonstrating the power of the network – notably focal points, trainers and members – to autonomously disseminate Sphere standards around the world. Known Sphere training events took place in Ethiopia, Iran, Japan, China, Thailand, Indonesia, Romania, Syria, Venezuela, Türkiye, Burkina Faso, Portugal, Uruguay, Moldova, Slovak Republic, Brazil, United States of America, Pakistan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Germany.

viii. Sphere organised an online workshop with trainers and focal points on **Lessons Learnt from organising ToTs**, with keynote contributions from trainers in Ethiopia, Türkiye and Japan.

ix. In collaboration with its focal point, Caritas Moldova, Sphere released a Romanian contextualised version of the Sphere Handbook Activity Cards and a series of Sphere and HSP videos in Romanian.

x. Sphere developed a prototype of an XML-based case study database and authoring platform – and successfully demonstrated this with several organisations.

xi. In partnership with the Humanitarian Leadership Academy, Groupe URD and CHS Alliance, Sphere started work on a new Core Humanitarian Standard self-paced online course (for release in Spring 2025).

Sphere's largest ever training event: Highlights from the Spanish MOOC

The Spanish-language Sphere in Practice MOOC was Sphere's largest online course to date, bringing together thousands of humanitarians from across Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC) and beyond for seven weeks of training. Organised in collaboration with RedR UK, the course provided essential knowledge on humanitarian standards, programme implementation, and accountability.

With participants from over fifty countries, the MOOC created a large and diverse learning community. Through expert-led webinars, interactive discussions, and self-paced modules, participants gained practical skills to improve their disaster response efforts.

The high engagement and completion rates reflected the demand for structured learning on Sphere standards in the LAC region, and the impact extended beyond the course itself. A group of participants and Sphere focal points built on the momentum created by the MOOC to run a follow-up series of webinars to continue the discussions and deepen learning around key humanitarian issues.

As Sphere's most extensive online training to date, the Spanish MOOC has set a new benchmark for accessible, large-scale capacity building in the humanitarian sector.

The Spanish MOOC blog offers further insights into the course. Recordings of the MOOC webinars are available.

Colombia	672
Venezuela	518
Ecuador	487
Perú	353
México	283
España	111
Brasil	105
Guatemala	79
El Salvador	75
Argentina	72
Chile	66
Bolivia	45
Honduras	38
Costa Rica	31
República Dominican	20
Panamá	18
Estados Unidos	13
Portugal	12
Nicaragua	12
Uruguay	9

Also participants from Paraguay, Guyana, Suiza, Senegal, Francia, Alemania, Países Bajos, Siria, Canadá, Italia, República Democrática del Congo, Angola, Cuba, Australia, Haití, Argelia Finlandia, Israel, Grecia, Singapur, Austria, Suecia, Líbano, Ucrania, Chipre, Palestina, Moldavia, Mozambique

Esfera

Map of South and Central America, showing how many Spanish MOOC registrations there were in each country.

B. Strategic Partnerships

To align and promote cross-sectoral humanitarian minimum standards

i. Sphere continued to host and coordinate the Humanitarian Standards Partnership (HSP), convening regular meetings with partners and promoting collaboration. The HSP steering group met in-person during HNPW.

ii. Sphere created a new HSP board game as part of its updated HSP materials, making learning about humanitarian standards more interactive and fun. The board game is accompanied by a set of postcards that can be used when playing the game, and which replace the old brochure. This approach means the brochure does not go out of date; for each revision or new HSP partner, just one postcard needs to be created or updated!

iii. HSP partner SEADS completed the translation of their handbook into French, Spanish and Arabic, with technical support from Sphere. All four language versions are available via the Interactive Handbook. Sphere continued to support SEADS with their training programme, including helping to identify strong candidates for their ToT.

iv. Sphere added a new HSP History page (in four languages) in preparation for celebrating ten years of the HSP in 2026.

v. Sphere supported HSP partner SEADS and regional partner Community World Service Asia (CWSA) by piloting an innovative email campaign approach; sending targeted event invitations to people predicted to live within 200 miles of the training venues.

vi. Sphere was selected by Nesta as their 'anchor partner' for a 6-month project (Sep 2024 to Feb 2025) to scope an AI Safety Label for the humanitarian sector (read more).

vii. Sphere continued to support the revision of the Core Humanitarian Standard and attended the global launch event on 24 March 2024 in Geneva.

viii. Geneva-based Sphere staff moved into The Humanitarian Hub. Sphere is grateful to the CHS Alliance for the invitation to share their office space.

ix. Sphere established a good relationship with SYNI, an initiative of the job centre in Lausanne which provides work placements in non-profit organisations for highly-experienced job-seekers. Maurizio Spagnol joined the team for six months under this scheme and provided invaluable assistance, including taking a lead role in organising the Global Focal Point Forum (GFPF), and in managing relationships with Sphere's Spanish-speaking community in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC).

x. Sphere entered to a consortium with the University of Geneva and others to protect and develop the Humanitarian Encyclopedia, a collaborative online platform to co-produce concepts and apply knowledge that guides effective humanitarian response.

xi. Sphere, in its role as the host of the HSP, was approached by several organisations interested in joining the HSP with new humanitarian standards for:
1) Research and Innovation; 2) Data;
3) Connectivity; and 4) Artificial Intelligence. Sphere assisted two of these organisations to write concept notes covering the standards development and dissemination processes.

xii. Sphere, alongside other HSP members, co-signed an open letter to Mr. Tom Fletcher, the newly-appointed Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator at OCHA. The letter emphasised the critical link between quality and accountability in humanitarian assistance and called for prioritising minimum standards to uphold dignity in crisis response.

How can humanitarian organisations use Artificial Intelligence safely?

AI has the potential for good in the humanitarian sector, but also has the potential to cause harm to vulnerable people.

How can humanitarian organisations – or people within those organisations responsible for procurement – make good decisions on when, where and how to use AI? Sphere, in partnership with Nesta (the UK's innovation agency for social good), Data Friendly Space, and CDAC Network – supported by FCDO and the UKHIH – explored one possible answer to this question: an **AI Safety Label**.

Our research included live sessions in Türkiye with Sphere focal points in Antalya, and with earthquake-affected communities in Antakya.

Read more about the AI Safety Label project

Sphere trainer Zeynep Sanduvaç (Nirengi Derneği) and Esther Moss (Nesta) facilitate a community testing workshop in Antakya, Türkiye, November 2024.

Aleks Berditchevskaia (Nesta) facilitates a group activity around organisational capacities for AI safety at GFPF 2024, Antalya, Türkiye, November 2024.

A fun way to learn humanitarian standards:
The HSP challenge board game

The **HSP Challenge board game** brings a fresh, fun approach to understanding how different standards support crisis response. Players take on different roles, e.g., community member, NGO staff, or government representative. As the game progresses through preparedness, response and recovery phases, players confront different challenges within a crisis scenario, and navigate the HSP handbooks to find relevant advice.

From ensuring safe water, through protecting children, to providing shelter, HSP standards offer guidance at each phase of humanitarian response.

This hands-on, ludic experience is great for workshops, training sessions, or simply sparking conversations about humanitarian assistance. The HSP Challenge board game brings humanitarian standards to life – one turn at a time!

William Anderson moderates an engaging HSP game session at the Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week (RHPW) 2024 in Bangkok.

Sphere in numbers

During 2024, there were:

188,854 visitors to the Sphere and HSP websites

40,094 views on the Sphere YouTube channel

60,469 downloads from the Sphere website

6,870 new registrations on the learning platform

48,694 consultations of the Interactive Handbook

208 Sphere-related events added to the Sphere Calendar

As of 31st December 2024, Sphere has:

100,779 Sphere newsletter subscribers

49,481 social media followers

21,843 installs of the HSP App

165 listed trainers

91 focal points and regional partners

55 full members

50 documents on the Interactive Handbook

9 partners in the Humanitarian Standards Partnership

At the end of the year, there are at least **35,000** printed 2018 edition Sphere Handbooks in circulation! While PDF remains the most-used format in practice, printed copies remain the most desirable.

C. Policy & Advocacy

To advocate for greater commitment to quality and accountability
in humanitarian policy and practice

i. Launched in November 2024, the Sphere Forum (built on the Discourse platform) has already brought together 93 focal points, members and trainers. This online platform serves as a vibrant space for the Sphere community to share experiences, opportunities and best practices, and collaborate to better apply Sphere standards in diverse humanitarian contexts.

ii. A significant milestone this year was the launch of Sphere's Theory of Change (ToC), available in multiple formats: new webpages, a printed cross-folded brochure, a digital PDF, social media tiles and PowerPoint slides – all in four languages. Sphere's ToC aligns with US government guidance and serves as a foundational tool for strategic planning. The content and design (featuring illustrations by Lydia Thornley) received great feedback from practitioners and funding partners alike.

iii. Sphere's new Nature-based Solutions e-learning, launched in late December, saw 145 registrations during just the last ten days of the year. The interactive course offers practical ideas for developing sustainable solutions with disaster-affected communities. Due to popular demand, the Sphere NbS guide is now available for sale from Sphere's publisher.

iv. Sphere trainer Aya Yagan and Sphere focal point representative for Yemen, Nabil Al-Kumaim, developed the first version of a practical guide to contextualising Sphere standards – using a consultative process. The guide, which draws on insights from over 25 interviews with Sphere focal points and member organisations, highlights challenges, successes, and lessons learned. It will be released in early 2025.

v. Sphere continued to disseminate information, resources and materials on humanitarian standards and to advocate for their application globally. Sphere remains committed to producing most of its content in at least English, French, Spanish and Arabic, and encouraging and supporting the Sphere network to produce further translations and localised materials.

vi. Sphere added 18 articles to its news feed of which the most popular was related to the launch of Sphere's Nature-based Solutions e-learning. Another, posted on 30th October 2024, was a statement on the proposed restrictive ban on UNRWA by Israel.

vii. Sphere continued to promote resources and events online and engage directly with the network through social media platforms: Facebook, X, LinkedIn and YouTube.

viii. Sphere added 37 public videos to YouTube during 2024. The most-watched video was The Sphere Story – Romanian version with over 200 views. Overall, Sphere's YouTube channel recorded 40,094 views during the year.

ix. Sphere ran five mail campaigns and continues to attract an impressive 14 new subscribers each day (on average) to maintain over 100,000 subscribers after normal attrition of around 5%.

x. Sphere started running mail campaigns in Arabic – in addition to the English, French and Spanish ones in previous years.

xi. Sphere's Executive Director represented the network at many events. Roles included speaker and moderator at the second day of the Berlin Humanitarian Congress; panellist at the Civil Society 7 Summit conference in Rome (re. Humanitarian Principles); panellist at the global Shelter Cluster annual event in Geneva (re. challenges facing the aid system and the need to maintain a focus on dignity and quality); panellist at the Estonian Refugee Council's International Humanitarian Assistance Conference (re. dignity in humanitarian action and the wider aid sector); and speaker at both HNPW in Geneva and RHPW in Bangkok on humanitarian standards, principles and the environment.

xii. Sphere staff joined panel discussions, facilitated workshops and otherwise represented Sphere at various events, including Groupe URD's Autumn University on decolonisation of aid; European Humanitarian Forum; EPFL Advanced Machine Learning Days (AMLD); ICVA General Assembly; Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) Connectivity As Aid (CAA) Consultation in Rome; SDC AI workshop in Bern;

Global Nonprofit Leaders' Summit; Centre for Humanitarian Negotiations (CCHN) summit; Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction; 34th International Conference of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Annual International Humanitarian and Security Conference (IHSC); and Conference on the environmental dimension of humanitarian action.

xiii. In December 2022, the Disaster Risk Management Act 2022 (DRM) was enacted by the Government of the Bahamas. This calls for a DRM policy to include a national DRM plan which includes "specific, measurable, attainable, action-oriented, relevant and time-bound indicators" (from page 11). Sphere worked with the Inter-American Development Bank and the Government of the Bahamas to use Sphere standards as the basis for the national DRM plan. This will go on to inform national response guidelines and standard operating procedures from 2025.

xiv. Sphere started working towards obtaining the Cyber Safe Label.

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Why the World needs Sphere: Our Theory of Change

In 2024, Sphere published a Theory of Change (ToC) to communicate **to everyone** what Sphere is about. It describes **who we are**; **our vision**; **our mission**; the **challenges faced by our stakeholders**; the activities we undertake to meet these challenges; and the **outcomes and impacts of our work**.

Accessibility and understandability were key objectives of this project, so that anyone – including people who have never heard of Sphere before or are not from the humanitarian sector – can discover and understand what Sphere is and does in a couple of minutes.

While written for public dissemination, Sphere's ToC is also an invaluable internal tool. Sphere's latest strategy paper, work plan, donor reports (where possible), and even accounting system now follow the same four strategic areas: **Policy & Advocacy, Strategic Partnerships**, **The Sphere Handbook**, and **Champions Network**. With so many opportunities and potential partnerships open to Sphere, the ToC is a reference for selecting programmes which are strategically aligned and avoiding mission creep.

The completed ToC is a milestone in a longer journey. The next step – already started in 2024 – is to develop a Monitoring and Evaluation framework based on the new ToC. The M&E framework will describe how Sphere can measure to what extent its core activities address the perceived challenges and achieve the desired outcomes and impacts.

Key events in 2024

Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW)

A highlight of the year was Sphere's active participation in OCHA's annual Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW) in Geneva, where Sphere hosted or co-hosted six events In different formats.

Notable sessions included Lessons Learnt events led by local organisations from Ukraine and Türkiye, which showcased the contextualisation of Sphere standards, and an online event, **Sphere humanitarian standards in action around the world**, attended by more than 80 people. Sphere's Executive Director delivered a keynote speech, and board members led a panel on prioritising quality in humanitarian assistance.

Sphere partnered with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) for a workshop on scaling Nature-based Solutions in humanitarian contexts; invited Sphere champions from various regions to Geneva; ran a stall in the exhibition area; and organised governance meetings in the fringes of the event.

Zeynep Sanduvaç, Sphere Trainer and focal point in Türkiye, moderates a HSP Board Game session during the HNPW.

Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week (RHPW)

Sphere also participated in the Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week (RHPW) 2024, held in early December in Bangkok, Thailand. In collaboration with partners including Plan International, Community World Service Asia (CWSA), Mercy Malaysia, PREDIKT, and Rumah Zakat, Sphere led sessions on Nature-based Solutions (NbS), the HSP Board Game, and contextualising standards. Sphere also co-shared an engaging booth with CWSA and CHS Alliance in the exhibition area.

The NbS session stood out for its relevance and impact in addressing current humanitarian challenges, receiving particularly positive feedback from participants.

Vanda Lengkong, Board member of Sphere, moderates the session 'Taking care of the nature: Scaling up nature-based solutions in humanitarian contexts in Asia'

Nature-based Solutions for Humanitarians

Climate change and environmental degradation are no longer distant threats; they are increasingly shaping today's humanitarian crises.

Nature-based Solutions (NbS) – a term coined by IUCN over 20 years ago – are actions that hold the twin objectives of providing for human well-being and protecting the environment.

In humanitarian contexts, they are tangible solutions that can build immediate and long-term resilience for those affected by crisis.

In 2023, Sphere released NbS guidance for humanitarians: Nature-based Solutions for Climate Resilience in Humanitarian Action.

In 2024, Sphere secured its position as the leading provider of NbS training for humanitarians with a new self-paced online course: Nature-based Solutions for Humanitarians.

The course equip humanitarians with practical knowledge and strategies to incorporate NbS into their programmes. With seven comprehensive sections, it explores the principles of NbS, showcases real-world applications, and provides actionable guidance for implementation.

Tracking Sphere in government policies – introducing the SPiCE database

For many years, Sphere focal points and others have been advocating for adoption of Sphere principles and standards by national and local government actors. As a result, elements of the Sphere Handbook are integrated into many government policies – notably the disaster management frameworks of National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMAs).

Authored between 2016 and 2022, Sphere resources related to NDMAs include a discussion paper, a research paper, a training package, and a 'thematic sheet'. These documents refer to NDMA adoptions in no fewer than 19 countries: Afghanistan, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Chile, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Greece, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines and Vietnam. However, the amount of detail provided about the references to Sphere and the activities which led to the adoption varies widely.

Enter the Sphere Policy Change Evidence (SPiCE) database: Sphere explored NDMA adoptions through desk research and interviews with advocates, and succeeded in documenting fourteen adoptions in twelve countries: Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Japan, Nepal and Zimbabwe.

The new database – built in Salesforce CRM and initially for internal use – allows the Sphere team to track in-progress advocacy efforts, and more importantly, to assist these initiatives through lessons learned from the past.

Global government adoption of Sphere standards

D. Champions Network

To inspire and support local ownership of humanitarian standards

i. Sphere welcomed five new focal points during 2024 to its growing global network.
- Ethiopia (SoS Children's Village);
- Mexico (CADENA);
- Dominican Republic (New Acropolis);
- Malaysia (Mercy Malaysia); and
- Rwanda (Bikubusyo Consulting)

ii. Sphere organisational membership expanded to 55 during the year.

iii. Sphere supported a group of focal points (in Mexico, Colombia and Ecuador) to organise a series of thematic webinars for the Sphere community in LAC, in Spanish. This series was a follow-on from the Spanish Sphere MOOC, helping to sustain the great momentum created by the MOOC. The 130 participants in this series of workshops were selected from among the 870 Spanish MOOC graduates.

iv. Sphere and the Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRCS) agreed a new partnership focused on disseminating Sphere standards in Türkiye and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. To manage the project, TRCS recruited a Sphere Senior Officer based in Ankara. Led locally with technical support from the Sphere secretariat, the project exemplified localisation and participation.

v. Sphere established a new partnership with Community World Service Asia (CWSA) – a long-standing regional partner for Asia and focal point for Pakistan. As part of this collaboration, Zunaira Shams joined the Sphere secretariat as Communications Coordinator, reporting to Sphere's Head of Digital and Communications and based in Karachi.

vi. Twenty-two new trainers – from Indonesia, Pakistan, China, the Philippines, Türkiye, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Syria, Moldova, Guatemala, Slovak Republic, Ecuador and Canada – were welcomed to the community of listed Sphere trainers.

vii. Sphere created a Welcome Pack, primarily for new focal points but useful and available to all Sphere focal points, members, trainers and other 'champions'. The Welcome Pack is available in English and Spanish. As part of this process, Sphere translated its Intellectual Property (IP) page into French, Spanish and Arabic.

viii. Sphere (printed and) shipped 220 Sphere Handbooks - including 80 in local languages Lingala, Congo-Swahili, Kikongo and Tshiluba - to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in preparation for a series of training events and a launch event in Kinshasa.

ix. Sphere continued to support local ownership of standards by providing grants, guidance and technical assistance to locally led focal point activities, including:
- supporting a joint project led by three focal points to build on the Spanish MOOC's momentum and boost Sphere engagement in Latin America; and
- supporting 180degrees, Sphere's focal point in Mauritius, to advocate with governments and NGOs for the use of Sphere standards in Mauritius and four other Indian Ocean islands – with a view to catalysing workshops and strategic discussions with relevant government agencies in 2025.

x. Sphere renewed its three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with regional focal point partner for Asia, Community World Service Asia (CWSA) updating strategic objectives, planning activities and recruitment of focal points in countries with less Sphere presence such as Laos and Myanmar.

xi. Sphere continued its partnership with the Ecuadorian Disaster Management Agency to support the integration of humanitarian standards in national policies and guidelines. Sphere provided technical advice on several policy documents, including a Code of Conduct for disaster management actors.

xii. Sphere supported focal point representatives from Pakistan and Malaysia to attend the HNPW in Geneva.

xiii. Sphere created a new database (currently for internal reference only, integrated into Salesforce) to capture adoptions of Sphere by governments, including the activities which led to the recognition of Sphere in national legislation, guidelines or other formal documents. Following desk research and interviews with focal points and others, the database documents 14 adoption processes in 12 countries at the end of 2024.

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Global dialogue, local impact:
Sphere focal points meet in Antalya

The Sphere Türkiye Project, a collaborative initiative between the Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRCS), Sphere, and the IFRC Türkiye Delegation, significantly advanced the promotion and implementation of humanitarian standards in Türkiye, neighbouring regions and globally.

A key highlight of this ambitious project, spanning from February 2024 to February 2025, was the Global Focal Point Forum (GFPF) 2024, held in Antalya, Türkiye, from 13 to 15 November.

This landmark gathering, seven years after the inaugural GFPF in Bangkok, brought together 64 Sphere focal point representatives from 39 countries.

"Sphere has a long history in which IFRC has been involved from the start, throughout, and is still highly active. By promoting a common understanding of what good humanitarian work looks like, the standards guide IFRC to make good decisions which are respectful of local contexts." - Jessie Thomson, Head of Delegation, IFRC

Watch a souvenir video capturing highlights from the forum.

The project also included sessions at HNPW in Geneva, in-person Sphere training for 181 participants, two ToT programmes, and a Turkish-language translation of the How to use the Sphere Handbook online course.

Recognising Sphere's most engaged trainers

Sphere trainers play a vital role in strengthening humanitarian capacity worldwide, ensuring that Sphere Standards are effectively applied in crisis response. The **Active Trainer Badge** is awarded on a rolling basis to listed Sphere trainers who have facilitated at least six Sphere training events in the last 24 months, thereby demonstrating sustained commitment to Sphere.

These most dedicated trainers not only facilitate workshops but often also mentor new trainers, develop localised materials, and develop innovative training materials and approaches.

One such dedicated trainer is Amha Ermias, whose impactful work in 2024 exemplifies what it means to be an Active Sphere Trainer.
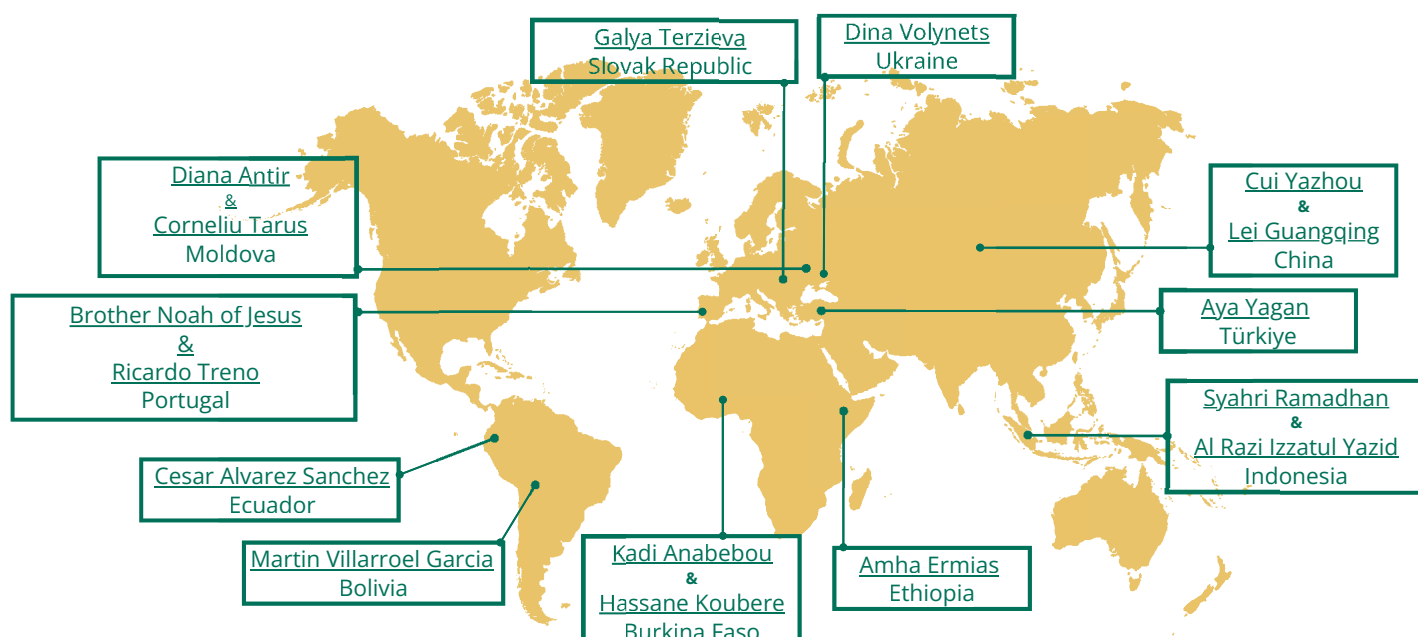
"In 2024, I facilitated seven Sphere training events including Ethiopia's second Sphere ToT, strengthening the capacities of over 100 humanitarians to apply Sphere Standards and promote quality and accountability in crisis response. Through mentoring ten new ToT graduates, I have supported them in becoming skilled trainers, adapting methodologies to their operational contexts and local needs.

These initiatives engaged humanitarian actors from nine organisations, including Concern Worldwide, Plan International, the Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA), CAFOD, Trócaire, SCIAF, COOPI, and SOS CV, equipping them with practical tools to integrate Sphere Standards into their humanitarian work. By developing localised and adaptive training materials, participants gained the skills to effectively apply Sphere principles in real-world settings.

Beyond training delivery, my efforts have focused on enabling field practitioners to embed accountability and improve humanitarian responses. Witnessing ToT graduates grow into confident facilitators capable of designing and leading training sessions has been particularly rewarding. Additionally, I contributed to the Sphere ToT skills sharing workshop, fostering knowledge exchange on best practices and innovative training approaches.

My commitment remains to strengthening humanitarian standards by building local capacity, enhancing training methodologies, and ensuring communities affected by crises receive dignified, effective, and principled support. The journey continues, further embedding Sphere Standards into humanitarian practice."

Sphere trainers with active trainer badges

Galya Terzieva
Slovak Republic

Dina Volynets
Ukraine

Diana Antir
&
Corneliu Tarus
Moldova

Cui Yazhou
&
Lei Guangqing
China

Brother Noah of Jesus
&
Ricardo Treno
Portugal

Aya Yagan
Türkiye

Syahri Ramadhan
&
Al Razi Izzatul Yazid
Indonesia

Cesar Alvarez Sanchez
Ecuador

Martin Villarroel Garcia
Bolivia

Kadi Anabebou
&
Hassane Koubere
Burkina Faso

Amha Ermias
Ethiopia

3. Environmental reporting

Sphere calculated its CO_2 emissions for the first time in 2024 with the findings presented here. This marks an important milestone in our ongoing commitment to environmental accountability. In 2024, Sphere is calculating emissions from travel only.

We are committed to transparency and will continue to report on our environmental performance in subsequent annual reports, as we work to better understand then reduce and/or offset our environmental impact.

Commute

Description	CO_2 (tonnes)
TOTAL Staff commute	3.0686

Calculations for cars

Hybrid or small petrol car: 4.5 tonnes CO_2 from manufacturing, assumed life of 250,000km, maintenance 2.2kg CO_2 / 1,000km, 5 litres fuel / 100km, 2.305kg CO_2 / litre fuel.
TOTAL = 13.5375 kg CO_2 per 100 km (135g CO_2 / km)

Electric car: 8.0 tonnes CO_2 from manufacturing, assumed life of 250,000km, maintenance 1.4kg CO_2 / 1,000km, 20kWh / 100km, 0.0390kg CO_2 equivalents / kWh (France).
TOTAL = 4.12 kg CO_2 per 100 km (41g CO_2 / km)

Cycling, walking and public transport within Geneva (short journeys) was zero-rated.

Sphere staff business travel

Description	CO_2 (tonnes)
TOTAL Staff business travel	7.7697

In four cases, Sphere staff chose to take the train instead of the more convenient (and generally cheaper) plane for the main purpose of reducing their carbon footprint. These train journeys represent theoretical carbon savings of 0.7218 tonnes vs. planes.

Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW) Guests

Sphere invited delegates from Syria, Ukraine, and Türkiye (2) for an estimated **3.2000 tonnes** of CO_2 emitted (0.8000 x 4). Flights are assumed direct from these locations.

Global Focal Points Forum (GFPF)

Event team

Description	CO$_2$ (tonnes)
Sphere staff (Geneva, Paria, Milan, Karachi)	7.2570
TRC/IFRC staff (Ankara)	2.9610
TOTAL event team	10.2180

Guests

Sphere invited delegates from Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Brazil (2), Chile, Colombia (2), Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Gaziantep, Germany (2), Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia (3), Iran (2), Iraq (2), Japan (2), Laos, London (2), Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Pakistan (2), Philippines, Portugal (2), Romania, Rwanda, Slovak Republic (2), Somalia, Spain (2), Sri Lanka, Switzerland (2), Taiwan, and Turkey. European flights are assumed to include one stopover (in Istanbul), Asia flights are assumed to have 1.5 stopovers on average, and LAC flights 2.5 stopovers on average. Total estimated emissions (11 x 1.1t from Europe + 13 x 2.0t from Asia + 10 x 5.4t from LAC) is **92.1000 tonnes** of CO$_2$.

Description	CO$_2$ (tonnes)
TOTAL GFPF (Event team plus guests)	103.3180

Calculations for trains and planes

Flight emissions from https://co2.myclimate.org/ per flight. Flight details (including routes) are not known for HNPW or GFPF guests, so these are based on estimates and averages to yield a reasonable rather than accurate total.

Train emissions for Switzerland including neighbouring countries: 7g CO$_2$ / person / km (based on Lausanne to Geneva: https://www.notion.so/a-met-combien-un-aller-retour-Gen-ve-Lausanne-en-train-bf9ae58cba6647d994c4d948663ef14f);
for U.K.: from https://www.thetrainline.com/

Description	CO$_2$ (tonnes)
GRAND TOTAL all travel	117.3563

4. Sphere network updates

Section 2 above presents the activities in which the Sphere secretariat (now based in Geneva and Karachi) played an active supporting or enabling role. Because of the open-source and organic nature of the Sphere movement, Sphere-related activities are mostly community-led with minimal assistance from the Sphere office.

Stories and updates from the network are always welcomed – and shared throughout the year on the News page of the Sphere website.

For the following section, members and focal points were invited to submit a Sphere-related achievement or a summary of their activities during the year. This handful of submissions is by no means an exhaustive account of global Sphere activities but presents some of the kinds of Sphere-related activities happening around the world every day.

See also stories submitted during the year from the Philippines, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania and South-Eastern Europe.

Africa

**Centre for Humanitarian Analytics drives sector-wide accountability**

As Sphere trainers and the Sphere country focal point for Zimbabwe, the Centre for Humanitarian Analytics (CHA) continues to champion quality and accountability across Africa. In 2024, CHA's initiatives have strengthened humanitarian response, institutionalised best practices, and fostered a culture of evidence-based decision-making.

This year, CHA trained over 500 humanitarian frontline actors across Zimbabwe and Southern Africa on Sphere Minimum Standards, reinforcing the right to life with dignity. CHA mentored and provided technical support to new/potential Sphere country focal points in Mozambique, Mauritius, and Cameroon, ensuring effective localisation of humanitarian standards. In collaboration with universities in Zimbabwe and Portugal, CHA integrated Sphere Standards into disaster management curricula, equipping future humanitarian leaders with globally recognised principles of quality and accountability.

Beyond capacity building, CHA has been at the forefront of policy advocacy, aligning national humanitarian frameworks with Sphere's Core Humanitarian Standard. CHA's efforts have contributed to the adoption of CHS commitments into Zimbabwe's Quality Assurance and Accountability Mechanism (QuAAM), a sector-wide tool enhancing accountability in humanitarian interventions.

At a regional level, CHA strengthened coordination across 27 African countries through its co-leadership of the Africa Humanitarian Standards Network (AHSN), fostering the contextual adaptation of Sphere and other HSP standards. Innovation played a key role in CHA's work. The launch of ZimSIIX, a sector-wide financing and accountability platform, is ensuring humanitarian action is transparent, targeted, and impact-driven. Meanwhile, Zimbabwe Disaster Risk Management Information System (ZimDRiMS), an early warning system developed in collaboration with Zimbabwe's Department of Civil Protection, is enhancing disaster preparedness and response planning by integrating Sphere Standards into risk management frameworks.

Through these initiatives, CHA is embedding quality and accountability into every aspect of humanitarian action, ensuring that aid is not just delivered, but delivered effectively, transparently, and in alignment with global standards.
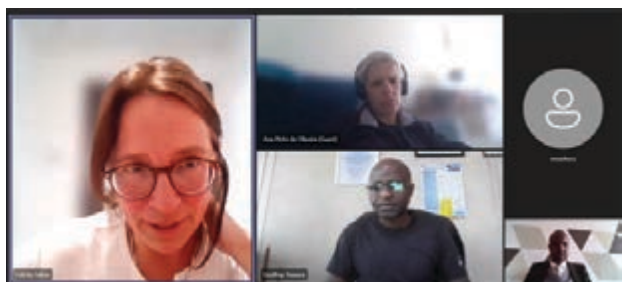
Online meeting led by CHA on integrating Sphere Standards into university curricula.
© Wonder Mufunda

From Wonder Mufunda (focal point representative for CHA in Zimbabwe, Africa regional partner representative for AHSN, and Sphere trainer)

Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

Training Sphere advocates in Latin America

In 2024, Sphere trainer Cesar Alvarez Sanchez conducted five capacity-building events across Latin America, equipping 98 aid workers with the knowledge and skills to uphold humanitarian standards. These sessions focused on using the Sphere Handbook to reinforce quality and accountability in crisis settings; and how to engage authorities and other stakeholders to advocate for the integration of humanitarian principles into local policies.

These events included a Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop, which further strengthened regional expertise, and enabled participants to pass their knowledge on to organisations and communities, thereby amplifying the impact of Sphere standards.

Group photo from Sphere ToT, Bolivia, Dec 2024
© Cesar Alvarez Sanchez

Sphere workshop group work, November 2024
© Cesar Alvarez Sanchez

From Cesar Alvarez Sanchez
(Sphere trainer, Ecuador)

Tailored Sphere training for Indigenous leaders, aid workers and students in Ecuador

During 2024, Sphere trainer Diego Alejandro Mora Sánchez led several workshops and field initiatives to equip aid workers, indigenous leaders, and disaster management students with crisis response skills.

- **Humanitarian assistance in emergencies workshop**:
  25 representatives from A'i Kofán, Chachi, Kichwa, Siekopai, and Siona indigenous communities participated in a five-day training focused on emergency response in water, food, shelter and health. Participants learned to contextualise Sphere standards to their local realities.

- **Regional market assessment workshop**: 21 humanitarian professionals from organisations including Caritas Ecuador, CARE and Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) enhanced their market assessment skills. This training incorporated the [Minimum Standard for Market Analysis](#) (MISMA) and the [Minimum Economic Recovery Standards (MERS)](#) as well as Sphere.

- **National humanitarian access workshop**: Against a humanitarian context of rising violence and crime, thirty humanitarian staff from the Caritas Network in Ecuador took part in the workshop. Facilitated by Juliana Fonseca (Caritas Germany), Francisco Guevara, Susana Enríquez (Caritas Ecuador), and Diego Mora, the workshop focused on access and complex humanitarian environments.

- **Field practices for disaster risk management students**: Sphere standards were integrated into field training for students pursuing disaster risk management degrees. The session reinforced theoretical knowledge with practical exercises in humanitarian programming, emergency assessments, and water quality analysis.

In Ecuador, Sphere standards continue to shape humanitarian action through targeted trainings and a growing community of practitioners.

Beyond training, the Ecuador Sphere Community remains an active platform for knowledge-sharing, with over 400 members from NGOs, public institutions and academia. The community fosters continuous learning through discussions, resource exchanges, and training opportunities, ensuring Sphere standards remain central to humanitarian work in Ecuador.

Diego delivers a session during the Humanitarian Assistance in Emergencies workshop, November 2024 © Diego Alejandro Mora Sánchez

From [Diego Alejandro Mora Sánchez](#) (Sphere trainer, Ecuador)

Ecuador aligns disaster response with global humanitarian standards

In 2024, Sphere's focal point in Ecuador – the [Secretaría de Gestión de Riesgos](#) (SNGR) – took significant steps toward enhancing the quality and effectiveness of humanitarian response by updating key regulations, launching training initiatives, and evaluating emergency interventions.

Two regulations – the *National standard for goods and kits for complementary humanitarian assistance* and *temporary shelter management* and *Guidelines for the management of humanitarian assistance goods* – were revised to align with international best practices, ensuring more efficient and accountable aid distribution.

On World Humanitarian Day, the SNGR celebrated Sphere advocates and provided one-day Sphere training for National Decentralized System for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (SNDGIRD) staff – focusing on disaster preparedness, resource optimisation, protection and accountability.

129 disaster risk management staff were trained in five Sphere workshops in Quito, Machala, Guayaquil, Tulcán, and Esmeraldas – focusing on rights-based humanitarian response by local responders.

SNGR also conducted a quality assessment of emergency humanitarian response efforts, evaluating interventions in Esmeraldas and Manabí provinces; two regions affected by severe flooding. The assessment measured the effectiveness, relevance, and impact of aid delivery, using performance indicators and community feedback to identify gaps and improve future response strategies.

Group photo from Sphere workshop in Guayaquil, Ecuador. ©Ing. Emerson Benítez Saavedra

From Ing. Emerson Benítez Saavedra (focal point representative for SNGR, Ecuador)

Oceania (and beyond)

Sphere placed at the heart of training courses in Australia

In 2024, RedR Australia reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening humanitarian response by embedding the Sphere Handbook into its training programs. Across fifteen core courses in Australia, Fiji, and Jordan – alongside six bespoke training programs for partners in the Pacific, Middle East, and Africa – participants were introduced to Sphere's principles as a fundamental guide to effective crisis response.

The Sphere Handbook features strongly in RedR's Essentials of Humanitarian Practice (EHP) course, which includes dedicated sessions on food security, nutrition, wash, shelter and health. This approach gives participants the knowledge and tools they need to uphold quality and accountability in humanitarian work by ensuring they know how to apply Sphere standards and approaches effectively in the field.

RedR Australia also played an active role in Sphere's global network. As a Governing Board member, RedR CEO Dr. Helen Durham attended the annual Sphere Board meeting in Geneva in May 2024 – where the evolving role of the Sphere Standards in a rapidly changing world were discussed.

By combining hands-on training with global engagement, RedR Australia continues to support Sphere's mission – to define, promote and apply humanitarian principles and standards to ensure lifesaving, protective and accountable response to crises.

Participants engaged in a Sphere workshop © Rachael Phillips

From Rachael Phillips (focal point representative for RedR Australia)

Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

A new generation of Sphere ambassadors in the Middle East

Access International, a non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting human rights, has been leading the Sphere Ambassadors Project to strengthen humanitarian response in Arab-speaking countries affected by crises.

One of the key components of this project is the delivery of context-specific training facilitated by experienced local professionals. These sessions are designed to equip participants with the tools and understanding needed to respond to humanitarian challenges in their own environments.

In 2024, two flagship workshops under this initiative focused on helping participants effectively apply Sphere standards in real-world operational settings. The introductory Sphere workshop, on 14 September, led by Sphere trainers, Rabie Abou Assaleh and Hassan Ali Deeb, included an introduction to the Sphere Handbook and real-life examples of the applications of WASH, food, shelter and Health technical standards.

The webinar on Protection Principles, held on November 30, facilitated by Rabie Abou Assaleh and Ammar Al Jaour, a disaster management coordinator with extensive experience in humanitarian training and crisis management, focused on the four Protection Principles.

Participants were guided to contextualise the principles to their operational settings. The session also addressed specialised protection activities, such as child protection, advocacy, and efforts to combat gender-based violence.

These two events brought together over 120 participants from Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Yemen, Algeria, Egypt and Turkey, representing diverse expertise in emergency response; humanitarian coordination and management; community engagement and participation; and psychosocial support.

Through a deeper understanding of the Sphere Handbook's principles, these workshops enabled participants to apply Sphere Standards effectively, enhancing their ability to promote dignity, equity, and resilience in the communities they serve.

Rabie delivering a webinar focused on the Protection Principles
© Rabie Abou Assaleh

From Rabie Abou Assaleh
(Sphere trainer, Syrian Arab Republic)

Asia

Advancing Sphere Standards in Indonesia

The Indonesian Society for Disaster Management (MPBI) continued its role as Sphere's focal point in Indonesia, promoting Sphere and other humanitarian standards through university seminars, organisational training and collaborative initiatives.
A major milestone was the launch of the Indonesian-language version of the

Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) 2024 edition on March 22, just one day after its global release. Organised in collaboration with UNOCHA and key humanitarian partners, this hybrid event introduced several local organisations to the CHS.

MPBI organised multiple Sphere training events throughout the year, engaging diverse audiences. In July, a seminar for the Forum Zakat Organization (FOZ) and Sekolah Amil Indonesia introduced 176 participants to the Sphere Handbook, sparking interest in further training collaborations. August saw a webinar on Nature-based Solutions, integrating environmental approaches into disaster response. The university fair in October extended Sphere outreach to academic institutions, with events at Sebelas Maret University in Surakarta and STIKES Muhammadiyah in Banda Aceh. Additional training sessions took place at Hasanuddin University in Makassar, Humanitarian Forum Indonesia (HFI) in Jakarta, and the ACT Alliance Indonesia Forum, along with an online session for Indonesian Muhammadiyah students in Cairo.

Recognising the need to further strengthen humanitarian capacity, Sphere trainer Al Razi Izzatul Yazid facilitated two key training sessions under the USAID – STEADY project, implemented by HFI.

Group photo of Humanitarian Forum members.
ⓒ Syahri Ramadhan

Facilitating alongside Syahri, Razi played a pivotal role in preparing workshop participants to apply Sphere standards in diverse emergency contexts.

A multi-streamed Training of Trainers (ToT) programme saw 50% of participants trained as new Sphere trainers while the other 50% participated in basic training. This initiative successfully introduced new Sphere trainers within the HFI network, who later co-facilitated a basic Sphere Standards training in December 2024. The training brought together participants from five HFI HUB regions: North Sumatra, Jakarta, West Kalimantan, South Sulawesi, and East Nusa Tenggara.

These coordinated efforts by MPBI and HFI have significantly expanded awareness and practical application of Sphere standards, reinforcing humanitarian best practices in Indonesia's disaster-prone context. Through their leadership and dedication, trainers like Razi and Syahri continue to build local capacity, ensuring Sphere standards remain a cornerstone of humanitarian response in Indonesia.

Al Razi co-facilitating a Sphere training.
ⓒ Al Razi Izzatul Yazid

From Syahri Ramadhan (a.k.a. Adhong) (Sphere focal point representative for MPBI and Sphere trainer, Indonesia); and Al Razi Izzatul Yazid (Sphere trainer)

Championing the Core Humanitarian Standard in Sri Lanka

In its role as Sphere focal point, MFCD Sri Lanka has been working to spread awareness and understanding of the Core Humanitarian Standard across the country. Beginning its journey with Sphere in 2023, MFCD launched its first initiatives in 2024 with seed funding from Sphere Regional Partner Community World Service Asia. These included educating key stakeholders, providing training, and encouraging use of the CHS in humanitarian work, notably among people involved in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and supporting women and children.

Capacity strengthening: MFCD held several training workshops during the year. Two in-depth sessions in Colombo focused on quality, safeguarding, accountability and working safely with vulnerable groups. A key event in Ampara (July) brought together local officials, community organisations and activists to discuss CHS integration. Another workshop in Colombo (September) for government and community-based organisations (CBO) staff focused on supporting women, children, and persons with disabilities.

Localised resources: Recognising the importance of accessible humanitarian knowledge, MFCD translated the revised CHS into Sinhala and launched it at the Colombo Public Library in September. Along with the in-progress Tamil version, this initiative ensures that CHS commitments are widely understood and adopted at the local level. MFCD organised a dialogue forum for diverse stakeholders to discuss how the CHS applies to their work.

A lasting commitment to quality and accountability: The positive response from participants across all initiatives highlights the growing recognition of CHS in Sri Lanka's humanitarian landscape. By fostering dialogue, strengthening networks and ensuring that humanitarian actors are equipped with the right tools and knowledge, MFCD Sri Lanka demonstrates its committed to accountable and effective humanitarian action.

CHS workshop in Colombo, May 2024.
© MFCD Sri Lanka

From Hanan Hussain (Sphere focal point representative for MFCD, Sri Lanka)

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Oxfam Hong Kong bridges knowledge gaps in disaster response

For many years, Oxfam Hong Kong has been at the forefront of advancing humanitarian standards in Mainland China, equipping responders with the knowledge and tools to deliver principled, effective aid.

In 2024, Oxfam Hong Kong organised four Sphere trainings across the country – in Baotou (Inner Mongolia), Xining (Qinghai), Guiyang (Guizhou), and Beihai (Guangxi Zhuang) – bringing together 183 participants from 98 humanitarian organisations.

Led by experienced trainers from Oxfam Hong Kong, the Amity Foundation, and the Blue Sky Rescue Team, the sessions emphasised interactive learning,

group exercises, and real-world applications of Sphere standards. A key highlight was a disaster scenario exercise where participants designed response plans for affected communities using the Sphere Handbook. Participants worked in groups to develop these plans for different communities, each with unique challenges and needs.

Beyond training, Oxfam Hong Kong has been a long-standing advocate for Sphere Standards in China. Since 2013, it has provided training for over 700 humanitarian workers, and has translated the 2011 and 2018 edition Sphere Handbooks into Simplified Chinese.

Wu Ziyi from Blue Sky Rescue Team attended a Sphere workshop in Beihai.

"Sphere is not just a set of standards; it represents deep care and respect for every life."

After severe flooding struck her hometown in July 2024, Wu joined relief efforts while Oxfam provided cash relief to affected households.

Through training, resource development, and advocacy, Oxfam Hong Kong continues to promote quality and accountability in humanitarian action across China.

Tent construction during the disaster drills, Beihai workshop, December 2024.
ⓒ Oxfam Hong Kong

Group photo after the training in Qinghai, Oct 2024
ⓒ Oxfam Hong Kong

From Kate Lin (focal point representative for Oxfam Hong Kong)

Promoting and applying Sphere standards to strengthen AAP and improve humanitarian programmes in Asia Pacific

Community World Service Asia is dedicated to enhancing the capacity of its stakeholders on various Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Quality and Accountability (Q&A) tools and standards through workshops, webinars, and other activities. Their goal is to broaden participants' understanding and encourage the use of these standards as valuable tools for implementation in their interventions, helping them fulfill their commitment to ensuring quality and accountability to affected populations. In 2024, CWSA trained around 700 practitioners from 360 organisations across Asia Pacific on various Q&A tools and standards.

Community World Service Asia undertook various initiatives in 2024 to promote Q&A in humanitarian assistance, particularly through the application of Sphere Standards including the CHS.

In 2024, these initiatives included:

- **Hygiene/dignity kit distribution**: CWSA distributed kits to Afghan refugees in Pakistan and rural women affected by droughts and floods in Sindh, guided by Sphere standards on hygiene promotion and menstrual hygiene management. Community engagement was crucial in designing culturally sensitive kits, which included discreet packaging and reusable sanitary products to promote sustainability. To ensure effective use of the dignity kits, awareness sessions aimed to educate participants on the proper usage of the kits were also conducted.

- **Translation of Sphere Handbook**: To bridge language barriers, CWSA translated the Sphere Handbook into Urdu and Dari, distributing copies to practitioners to enhance their understanding and application of the standards.

- **Cash assistance and market analysis**: CWSA emphasised the need for market analysis before providing cash assistance, ensuring that the amounts were aligned with local market prices and food availability. This approach aimed to uphold the dignity of recipients and ensure their nutritional needs were met.

- **Digital health course development**: CWSA developed a Digital Health Course based on the Sphere Handbook to increase accessibility for local practitioners. The course was designed to be interactive and contextually relevant, with a focus on community involvement throughout the program cycle.

- **Strengthening the regional focal point network**: Three quarterly meetings were organised by CWSA and led by different Sphere Focal Points in Asia Pacific, where experiences and best practices in contextualising Sphere standards were shared. These meetings fostered collaboration and knowledge exchange among stakeholders.

- **Dignified health services**: In its ongoing efforts to address the health needs of affected communities in Sindh province, CWSA provided free primary healthcare services through Rural Health Units (RHUs) and Mobile Health Units (MHUs). Sphere standards on Health were referenced to ensure that the healthcare services for the affected people were safe, effective, and patient-centred.

Community World Service Asia partnered with Sphere to share an exhibition area stall at the ACT General Assembly and Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week (RHPW), promoting quality, accountability, and safeguarding in humanitarian action.

As part of their joint advocacy for contextualised humanitarian standards, CWSA co-hosted a session titled "From Universal Standards to Contextualised Application: Quality, Accountability, and Safeguarding", emphasising the importance of locally driven approaches in humanitarian response.

Sphere applied during cash distribution in Afghanistan
ⓒ CWSA

CWSA providing free primary healthcare services.
© CWSA

From Palwashay Arbab
(focal point and regional partner
representative for CWSA, Pakistan)

Europe

İHH grows its commitment to quality aid

During 2024, İHH Humanitarian Relief
Foundation strengthened its commitment to
quality humanitarian assistance through
Sphere trainings and global collaboration.

İHH conducted training sessions in
Gaziantep and Istanbul in Turkish and
Arabic, focusing on Sphere principles, The
Humanitarian Charter and practical
applications. To further build capacity, İHH
organised a ToT in Gaziantep, led by Sphere
Trainer Zeynep Sanduvac, thus expanding
the community of Sphere trainers in Türkiye.

Sphere training participants in Gaziantep, January 2024.
© İHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation

During the Humanitarian Networks and
Partnerships Weeks (HNPW) event, İHH
Board Member and Sphere trainer
Talha Keskin shared lessons from the 2023
earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria,
highlighting coordination with AFAD
(the 'Disaster and Emergency Management
Presidency' in Türkiye) and international
partners; and how Sphere Standards were
applied in the disaster response.

Sphere panel session at HNPW, Geneva, May 2024
© İHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation

A major milestone came in November 2024,
when İHH officially became a Sphere
member, reinforcing its commitment to
global humanitarian standards.

İHH participated in the Sphere Champions
Town Hall event and the launch of the
updated Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS).

From Zeynep Sanduvac (focal point
representative for Nirengi Association,
Turkiye and Sphere trainer)

Accessible capacity strengthening in Ukraine

In times of crisis, the ability to respond effectively can mean the difference between assistance that helps and assistance that transforms. Sphere's focal point in Ukraine, Tvoya Opora "Your Support" Charity Foundation, strengthened their responses by deepening their understanding of Sphere.

By investing in knowledge and collaboration, Ukrainian organisations are building a stronger, more accountable humanitarian sector that is better equipped to meet the needs of crisis-affected communities with dignity and care.

Eight Sphere training sessions were held across Ukraine, equipping 197 representatives from local non-governmental, civil society, and humanitarian organisations with essential skills to improve aid quality and accountability. A training of trainers (ToT) program and a dedicated workshop further strengthened the capacities of responders. The sessions, implemented in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), included participants from Partnership for Every Child, Umind, Caritas Czech Republic, CF New Dawn, and Caritas Ukraine.

Led by Sphere trainers Dina Volynets, Mariia Tesliuk and Alina Travnikova, the sessions focused on practical applications of Sphere standards, including the CHS and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH).

"This training provided not only new knowledge but also practical tools that we are already using in our humanitarian projects. Thanks to the hands-on exercises, we immediately saw how Sphere standards help improve the effectiveness of our work," shared one participant.

To ensure accessibility, Tvoya Opora translated Sphere training materials, and Curly Management Bureau, a partner of Tvoya Opora, translated the CHS into Ukrainian.

Group photo, Sphere workshop, Ukraine, October 2024
Ⓒ The Charity Foundation "Your Support"

From Tetyana Kyrylyuk
(focal point representative for
Your Support Charity Foundation, Ukraine)

Sphere training, partnership building and advocacy in Romania

From training sessions to high-level discussions with national authorities, Sphere's focal point in Romania, World Vision Romania (WVR), promoted Sphere throughout 2024. With a strong focus on capacity building, partnerships, and advocacy, WVR worked to integrate humanitarian principles into its Ukraine Crisis Response and beyond.

WVR organised two webinars titled "Sphere in Romania – Applying Humanitarian Principles and Minimum Standards". Held on 24 April (Romanian) and 23 May (English and Ukrainian), the webinars brought together 82 participants including Romanian and Ukrainian WVR staff with representatives from four local partners: Association Bucovina Institute, Jesuit Refugee Service, Romanian-Finnish School, and the Academic Foundation of the University of Technical Construction in Bucharest.

"The Sphere standards have guided us in providing services that not only meet immediate needs but also contribute to the long-term recovery and reintegration of the people we serve. Human dignity is a central pillar in all our activities, and Sphere provides us with the necessary tools to ensure that this principle is always upheld" stated webinar participant Alexandra Crivilaru, Coordinator at the Jesuit Refugee Service Romania.

Building on the momentum of the webinars, WVR facilitated an in-person introductory Sphere workshop on 25 July in Bucharest. This session, attended by 32 participants including WVR Ukraine Crisis Response staff and local partners, covered the foundation and technical chapters of the Sphere Handbook.

"These principles align perfectly with our school's mission, which encourages compassion, respect, and a commitment to social responsibility. The knowledge I gained from this course has deepened my understanding of humanitarian efforts and further inspired our school's ongoing work in promoting these ideals within our educational community" said participant Olga Gireada, Coordinator of the Ukrainian Educational Center (Romanian-Finnish High School).

As part of the DEC2b project, a dedicated Sphere workshop and Handbook launch event took place on 27 June. Seventy participants received physical copies of the Sphere Handbook, equipping them with essential knowledge for their humanitarian work. Furthermore, 65 staff members – both Ukrainian and Romanian – completed Sphere e-learning courses, earning certificates for their achievements.

October marked a significant step forward for Sphere's integration into national policies. WVR engaged in discussions with the Department for Emergency Situations, exploring the potential for an official Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2025.

In November, WVR participated in the Sphere Global Focal Point Forum in Antalya, sharing real-world examples of how Sphere standards guide humanitarian work in Romania, followed by a Sphere Training of Trainers (ToT) in December co-organised by Aktion Deutschland Hilft – Sphere's focal point in Germany, further strengthening Romania's capacity to promote humanitarian best practices.

"Sphere has become more relevant in Romania, especially during the Ukraine Crisis Response. While we've made significant progress, we're committed to expanding our efforts and ensuring that humanitarian aid remains rooted in dignity and quality standards" concluded Iozefina Teodorescu, WVR Education in Emergencies (EiE) specialist.

Participants engaged in a group activity during a Sphere workshop
ⓒ World Vision Romania

From Iozefina Teodorescu (focal point representative for World Vision Romania)

Assessing the impact of Sphere in South-Eastern Europe

In 2024, Sphere's regional partner for South-Eastern Europe, the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South-Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE) conducted an assessment to evaluate the impact of Sphere training in the region. The survey targeted participants in the comprehensive ToT programme which ran from 2020 to 2023, gathering insights on how they went on to apply Sphere for disaster preparedness and response.

Representing government agencies, the Red Cross and NGOs, respondents shared their experiences in applying Sphere standards in real-world humanitarian contexts. Many reported using Sphere principles in flood and earthquake response efforts, particularly during the 2023 floods in Slovenia and the Primorsko region, as well as in Türkiye's earthquake relief operations.

Others highlighted its role in migration and camp management, where it informed food, WASH, and non-food item planning in Red Cross-managed camps and helped shape migration policy transitions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Sphere standards played a role in logistical planning for large-scale refugee missions and emergency stock procurement, while rescuers and humanitarian workers incorporated Sphere knowledge into shelter capacity planning under the rescue initiative.

When asked about further training, topics of interest included camp management, minimum standards for flood safety in camp settings, and practical strategies for implementing Sphere standards in field operations, assessments, and shelter setup. DPPI also identified demand for training in WASH and disability inclusion in humanitarian response.

Survey respondents favoured flexible learning approaches like on-the-job training, online courses, or blended learning that combines digital and in-person instruction. Simulation exercises and in-person workshops were also mentioned, though by fewer participants.

Many respondents had already incorporated Sphere principles into their daily work or training sessions, though several encountered barriers such as financial constraints, a shortage of certified trainers, and time limitations.

The survey findings provide a good direction for DPPI SEE as it continues to strengthen Sphere's presence in the region. By addressing gaps in training and refining learning methodologies, the initiative aims to enhance the practical application of humanitarian standards across South-Eastern Europe.

From Rade Rajkovchevski (focal point representative for DPPI SEE)

International

Applying Sphere Standards in Lusophone humanitarian settings

Sphere's focal point for Brazil and Portugal, Fraternity International Humanitarian Missions (FIHM), continued to integrate Sphere's humanitarian principles into its work in Brazil, Portugal and Angola, focusing on training and implementing standards in ongoing humanitarian missions.

Capacity strengthening activities in 2024 included:

- **Porto Alegre, Brazil:** Three-day Sphere workshop for nineteen participants In collaboration with Green Thinking and the Mari Johannpeter Institute in response to severe floods in Rio Grande do Sul.

- **Training of trainers:** Five FIHM core staff members with field experience were mentored to become listed Sphere trainers, strengthening FIHM's capacities in Brazil and Portugal with a view to expansion in Angola.

- **São Carlos, Brazil:** FIHM volunteers addressed 93 attendees at SENAC (an educational institute) to align social assistance practices with humanitarian principles.

- **Global Focal Point Forum:** FIHM participated in the Sphere Global Focal Point Forum in Türkiye, sharing best practices and conducting interviews to document the activities and impacts of focal points around the world. A video capturing these contributions will be released in early 2025.

- **Spanish MOOC**: FIHM volunteers contributed as guest speakers the Massive Open Online Course.

FIHM implemented Sphere Standards in its humanitarian missions, including:

- In Angola, FIHM and St. Isabel's Children's Charity (OCSI) provided school support to displaced children. Protection Principles and mental health standards guided activities including therapeutic listening sessions to foster psychological resilience.

- Key training courses included Digital Marketing for Indigenous Entrepreneurs, which taught Venezuelan and Brazilian indigenous migrants content marketing, digital strategy and social media planning. Another initiative, Integrative and Cultural Pedagogy, helped indigenous communities communicate confidently in Portuguese, fostering autonomy and integration.

- Shelter and Settlement standards were transformed into practical learning, where children participated in supervised maintenance of living spaces, enhancing autonomy and community engagement.

- At the Roraima Humanitarian Mission, FIHM's Indigenous Cultural and Training Centre (CCFI) held open house feedback sessions, using recorded videos and community discussions to tailor future training sessions to indigenous needs.

Given the protracted humanitarian challenges FIHM addresses, Sphere Standards seamlessly merge with development and peace-building efforts, ensuring a comprehensive response to evolving needs.

A living workshop - vertical vegetable garden in Angola. © FIHM

From Ricardo Treno
(focal point representative for FIHM)

Statement of income and expenses

From 01.01.2024 to 31.12.2024
With comparative year figures
In Swiss francs

INCOME	2024	2023
Board distributions		
Membership fees	167,550	170,880
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)	200,000	150,000
US Department of State, Bureau of Population and Migration (PRM)	271,517	297,448
USAID - Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA, ex OFDA)	313,663	263,152
Disasters Emergency Committee	-	128,557
Aktion Deutschland Hilft	9,468	23,911
Other general grants and donations	32,493	7,605
Total Board Contributions and Donations	**994,691**	**1,041,553**
Other Income		
Handbook Sales	2,450	3,280
Re-invoicing of events and other charges	12,517	-
Technical Assistance delivered	24,082	-
Total Other Income	**39,049**	**3,280**
TOTAL INCOME	**1,033,740**	**1,044,833**

EXPENSES	2024	2023
Handbook direct sales expenses	-5,603	-24,746
Personnel expenses	-786,233	-811,970
Premises charges	-42,559	-38,067
Administration and office costs	-8,753	-9,327
IT expenses	-23,076	-28,925
Professional fees	-24,553	-41,265
Consultancies and development fees	-125,453	-187,020
Travel, representation and meetings	-14,078	-18,671
Support to focal points	-28,446	-6,127
TOTAL EXPENSES	**-1,058,763**	**-1,166,118**
NET OPERATING RESULT	**-25,023**	**-121,285**
Financial income	964	1,949
Financial expenses	10,132	-4,137
NET RESULT BEFORE CHANGES IN RESTRICTED FUNDS	**-34,191**	**-123,473**
Allocation to restricted funds	-585,180	-713,068
Use of restricted funds	611,686	741,798
NET RESULT BEFORE ALLOCATIONS	**-7,685**	**-94,743**
Allocation to Operational Reserve and specific project balances	-	-7,605
Use of Operational Reserve and specific project balances	-	29,742
NET RESULT FOR THE YEAR	**-7,685**	**-72,606**

Statement of changes in capital and restricted funds

From 01.01.2024 to 31.12.2024
In Swiss francs

2024	Balance 01.01.2024	Allocations	Use/ transfer	Balance 31.12.2024
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
US Bureau of Population and Migration (PRM)		271,517	-271,517	
USAID - Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)		313,663	-313,663	
Aktion Deutschland Hilft	26,506		-26,506	
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	**26,506**	**585,180**	**-611,686**	
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
General reserve	173,989		-72,605	101,384
Operational reserve	221,151			221,151
Net result of the year	-72,605	-7,685	72,605	-7,685
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	**322,535**	**-7,685**		**314,850**
TOTAL CAPITAL OF THE ORGANISATION	**322,535**	**-7,685**		**314,850**

Auditor's opinion

pwc

Report of the statutory auditor
on the limited statutory examination to the General Meeting of SPHERE ASSOCIATION, Geneva

As statutory auditor, we have examined the financial statements (Balance sheet, Statement of Income and Expenses, Cash flow statement, Statement of changes in capital and restricted funds and notes) of SPHERE ASSOCIATION for the year ended 31 December 2024. As permitted by Swiss GAAP FER 21 the information in the performance report is not required to be subject to the statutory auditor's examination.

These financial statements prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, Swiss law and the association's articles of incorporation are the responsibility of the Association Board. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of association personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of association documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER. Furthermore, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the association's articles of incorporation.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA

Louise Rolland
Licensed audit expert
Auditor in charge

Adelina Todorova

Genève, 28 March 2025

Enclosure:

- Financial statements (Balance sheet, Statement of Income and Expenses, Cash flow statement, Statement of changes in capital and restricted funds and notes)

Focal Points

Africa:
- Africa Humanitarian Standards Network (AHSN) (Sphere Regional Partner)
- Bikubusyo Consulting, Rwanda
- Bureau d'Information, Formations, Echanges et Recherche pour le Développement (BIFERD), DR Congo
- Caritas Congo ASBL, DR Congo
- Centre de Recherche Jurisconsulte (CRJ), DR Congo
- Centre for Livelihoods & Humanitarian Support (CLHS), Zimbabwe
- Centre for Humanitarian Analytics (CHA), Zimbabwe
- Horn International Relief and Development Organization (HIRDO), Somalia
- Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Disaster Preparedness for East and central Africa, Kenya
- One Hundred and Eighty Degree, Mauritius
- SOS children's Villages, Ethiopia

Americas:
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Argentina
- Agencia Adventista de Desarrollo y Recursos Asistenciales de Uruguay (ADRA), Uruguay
- Colombia Sphere Trainers (Alejandro Castañeda, Hugo Horacio Sánchez Ardila and Aydée Cecilia Marín Pallares)
- Asociación de Profesionales en Gestión del Riesgo en Desastres, Bolivia
- Cadena, Mexico
- Christian Aid, Haïti
- Venezuela Sphere Trainers (Flor R. Piñango H. and Luiz Ramirez)
- Fraternity – International Humanitarian Missions (FIHM), Brazil
- Fundación delAlto, Argentina
- Grupo Esfera El Salvador
- Grupo Esfera Honduras

- InterAction, Unites States of America
- Instituto Profesional de Logística y Gestión Integral de Riesgos (ILCEC), Chile
- Organización Nueva Acrópolis de República Dominicana, Dominican Republic
- Red Esfera Guatemala
- Red Esfera Bolivia
- Secretaría de Gestión de Riesgos, Ecuador
- Peru Sphere Trainers (Sergio Álvarez Gutierrez)

Asia:
- Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief (ACBAR), Afghanistan
- Alliance of Sphere Advocates in the Philippines (ASAP)
- Benevolence Standards Working Group (仁道标准工作组), China
- Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response, China
- Community World Service Asia, Pakistan (Regional Partner)
- Disaster Preparedness Network Nepal (DPNet)
- Disaster Risk Reduction Network Philippines (DRRNetPhils)
- International Consortium for Refugees in Iran (ICRI)
- Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOC), South Korea
- Masyarakat Penanggulangan Bencana Indonesia (MPBI) (Indonesia Society for Disaster Management)
- MERCY Malaysia
- Muslim Foundation for Culture and Development (MFCD), Sri Lanka
- Oxfam Hong Kong
- Radanar Ayar Association, Myanmar
- Sphere India
- Sphere Community Bangladesh (SCB)
- Taiwan Aid

Member Organisations

Europe:
- Aktion Deutschland Hilft e.V. (ADH), Germany
- Asociación de Voluntariado GEA, Spain
- Caritas, Ministry of Security and Red Cross Society Bosne i Hercegovine
- Caritas Moldova
- Concern Worldwide, Ireland
- Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (Regional Partner for SE Europe)
- Estonian Refugee Council, Estonia
- Fraternity – International Humanitarian Missions (FIHM), Portugal
- Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta – International Disaster Relief Department, Hungary
- Institut Bioforce, France
- KUNO, Netherlands
- Nirengi Association, Türkiye
- People in Need (PIN), Czech Republic
- Save the Children / Humanitarian Leadership Academy, Poland
- Society Development Institute (SDI) / Asociácia Samaritánov Slovenskej Republiky (ASSR), Slovak Republic
- Turkish Red Crescent Society, Türkiye
- Tvoya Opora / Charitable Foundation "Your Support", Ukraine
- World Vision Romania

Middle East / North Africa:
- Barzani Charity Foundation (BCF), Iraq
- Croissant Rouge Marocain, Morocco
- Hamza Hamwie, (MENA Region)
- Israeli School of Humanitarian Action (ISHA), Israel
- Sheikh Taher Azzawi Charity Organisation (STACO), Libya
- Syrian Arab Red Crescent, Syria
- The Lebanese Organisation of Studies and Training (LOST), Lebanon
- Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA)

Oceania:
- RedR Australia

- Abs Development Organization for Woman and Child (ADO)
- ACT Alliance
- Action for the Needy (CEPROCUL)
- ADRA International (Adventist Development and Relief Agency)
- Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH)
- Bureau d'Information, Formations, Echanges et Recherche pour le Développement (BIFERD)
- Building Foundation for Development
- CALP Network
- CARE International
- CARITAS Internationalis
- Centre for Humanitarian Analytics (CHA)
- CHS Alliance (CHSA)
- COAST Trust
- Community World Service Asia (CWSA)
- Concern Worldwide
- DPNet-Nepal (Disaster Preparedness Network Nepal)
- The Church of Sweden
- Elrha
- Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP)
- Fundación delAlto
- Humanitarian Response Network of Canada (HRN)
- International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)
- IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation
- iMMAP
- InterAction
- International Blue Crescent
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- International Islamic Youth League
- International Medical Corps
- InterWorks
- KALU Institute
- Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS)
- Mercy Corps
- MERCY Malaysia
- Migrace (Abiro Almotawasit Organisation)
- Nabd Development for Evolution
- Nahda Makers

- Nirengi Association
- Oxfam International
- PALPER ABSL
- Pak Mission Society (PMS)
- Plan International
- Q3 Strategy
- RedR Australia
- Save the Children
- SEND Relief
- SHIFA Welfare association
- Solidarité des Femmes pour le Bien-Etre Social et le Progrès (SFBSP)
- Sphere India
- Salvation Army
- Tamdeen Youth Foundation
- Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRCS) (Türk Kızılay)
- War Child Holland
- WORDS
- World Vision International (WVI)
- Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA)

Management, governance and donors

Sphere Secretariat
Switzerland:
- Felicity Fallon, Learning and Events
- Frédérick Genoud, Finance and Operations
- Romain Benicchio, Partnerships
- Tristan Hale, Digital and Communications
- William Anderson, Executive Director
- Amanda Moraes, Network and Membership (to May)
- Brooke Lauten, Policy and Impact (to March)
- Maurizio Spagnol, Events and Network (SYNI secondment June to December)

Pakistan:
- Zunaira Shams, Communications (CWSA secondment from September)

Extended Team in Türkiye:
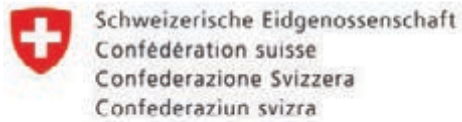- Asli Marasli, Sphere Senior Officer (IFRC/TRC secondment from February)

Financial Partners
- Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (SDC)
- U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM)
- U.S. Agency for International Development, Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)
- Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH)
- Nesta (included in Other general grants and donations in income statement)
- Members of Sphere
- Humanitarian Standards Partnership (partners)

Sphere Governing Board
- Turkish Red Crescent Society (Alper Küçük) (President)
- Jessica Camburn (Vice President) (Elrha representative to December, now individual member)
- Fast Rural Development Program (Fozia Rajput) (Treasurer)
- ACT Alliance (Niall O'Rourke)
- Caritas Internationalis (Christian Modino Hok)
- Community World Service Asia (Ayesha Hassan)
- Aktion Deutschland Hilft (Axel Schmidt) (from September)
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (Florent Del Pinto) (From May, replacing N Castano)
- Friar Luciano (Fraternity International Humanitarian Missions) (Individual member)
- Mercy Malaysia (Normaliza Mohd Nasir, "Mel")
- Plan International (Vanda Lengkong)
- RedR International (Dr. Helen Durham) (from May, replacing Natascha Hryckow)
- Save the Children (Wawan Muhammad) (from April, replacing Casey Harrity)
- World Vision International (Daniel Wanganga) (until March)

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

U.S. DEPARTMENT *of* STATE
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Aktion
Deutschland Hilft
Bündnis deutscher Hilfsorganisationen

Humanitarian
Standards
Partnership

nesta

REACH OUT TO US

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