

Open Data Policy

Purpose of this policy

- To clearly state The Hunger Project’s organizational commitment to transparency, and clarify the principles that will guide our implementation.

Definitions

- This policy applies to our global financial transfers, our program monitoring and evaluation data, and Hunger Project “work product” - our reports, analyses, our promotional materials, photographs and videos.

Policy Statements

- The Hunger Project, its supporters and its participants make a major investment in time and budget allocation to collect data to serve four important audiences:
 - The community partners with whom we work, to make their own informed decisions, set their own priorities and track their own progress;
 - Our staff and management, to continually learn from and improve our programs;
 - Our financial supporters, to be accountable for how their money has been used; and
 - Everyone interested in policy making - from decision makers to researchers to generally interested citizens - so that we can contribute to humanity’s collective efforts to end hunger and poverty.
- All these audiences are best served when data is accurate, timely, consistent over time, comparable across locations and organizations, and clearly meaningful within its operational context.
- For these reasons, The Hunger Project is committed to making data public and readily accessible, as appropriate with respect to ownership, privacy and confidentiality. All Hunger Project staff have a role in creating a culture of transparency, as an integral aspect of our culture as a Learning Organization.
- To be cost effective and maximally contribute to collective efforts, we will utilize widely accepted channels and data standards, such as the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and InterAction’s NGO Aid Map, to publish appropriate data.

Note: In order to comply with any provision of national laws/regulations or specific funding agreement that go beyond THP’s global policies, when needed, The Hunger Project may develop additional local policies or procedures to meet those requirements. In no circumstances will additional local policies or procedures serve to weaken or contradict this global policy. When such additional policies/procedures are required, they will be developed in consultation with the Global Office. If this policy contravenes national laws/regulations, the respective country’s law/regulations will take precedence in alignment with the spirit of the global policy.

We seek to minimize the manual labor burden of our staff by automating the export of internal data wherever possible.

- Our guiding principle will be that information we publish as open source will be public for non-commercial use (more below), limited only to the degree that (a) we have internally confirmed its accuracy, (b) it is not subject to our Privacy and Confidentiality Policies which restrict the selling, disclosure or sharing of investor information; (c) it is not owned by a third-party (e.g. a photographer who has taken photographs expressly for The Hunger Project's use); (d) it protects the privacy and other rights of individuals, and (e) it does not physically endanger our teams or community partners.
- For most purposes, we anticipate supporting this commitment by publishing such materials using the Creative Commons CC-BY-NC license, freely allowing noncommercial reuse with attribution.
- We will update the board at its annual meeting if we find any unforeseen challenges in implementing this policy.