



The Sphere community in 2019

We made humanitarian standards accessible worldwide

Sphere standards remain one of the most trusted resources for humanitarian quality and accountability. Sphere partners completed the Japanese and Chinese translations of the 2018 edition of the Sphere Handbook, while work began on 10 more translations. The Interactive Handbook, which allows users to browse various humanitarian standards and resources online, is available in five languages and is now ready for live user comments from 2020.



47,000

downloads of the Sphere Handbook



42,000

online users of the Interactive Handbook



43

handbook launch events in 26 countries across 6 continents

We trained new groups of quality and accountability champions

Sphere and its partners organised 51 workshops across 24 countries, including for the first time in Libya. 12 were Training of Trainers events that strengthened the pool of Sphere trainers. We collaborated with partners in regional quality and accountability training in Thailand, Cuba and Turkey. Sphere launched a revised training pack in four languages, a "How to become a Sphere Champion" e-learning course and a series of guides called "What is new in the Sphere Handbook 2018".



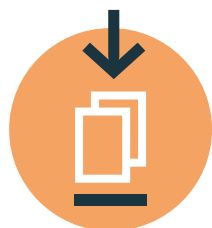
39

training workshops in 24 countries



12

Training of Trainers workshops in 8 countries



6,000

downloads of Sphere's training pack



6,000+

people enrolled in e-learning courses

We provided technical and policy guidance on humanitarian standards

Sphere continues to produce and disseminate important technical and policy guidance. In November, we released a thematic sheet on reducing the environmental impact of humanitarian operations through the application of standards. Sphere provided technical support related to standards for work on disability guidance, cash-based assistance, child protection and disaster risk reduction. A Sphere blog on palliative care standards was published in the journal of the European Association for Palliative Care.

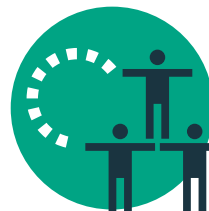
Sphere contributed to these policy groups and platforms:



Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines on accountability and inclusion



Core Humanitarian Standard management group



Humanitarian Standards Partnership, which Sphere hosts and coordinates



Sphere and UNHCR **standards and accountability panel**

We expanded and strengthened our global community of purpose and practice

The Sphere community continued to grow and welcomed one new focal point (Israeli School of Humanitarian Action), 30 individual members and 10 member organisations. Half of the latter are based in crisis-affected countries or key humanitarian hubs including the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Somalia, Turkey and Yemen. Sphere and its focal point, the Yemeni Family Care Association, produced a video on the positive impact of applying humanitarian standards. Sphere commenced work on developing a new strategy for 2021-2025.



54
focal points
across 49
countries



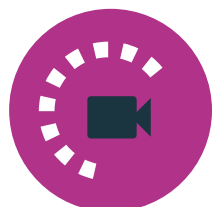
43
member
organisations
in 21 countries



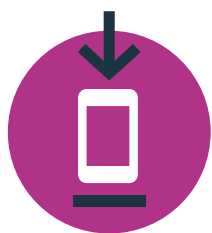
50+
individual
members

We promoted collaboration across humanitarian standards initiatives

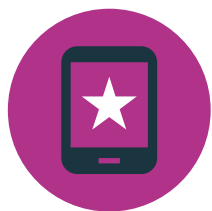
Sphere and the other six Humanitarian Standards Partnership (HSP) members released an animated video in four languages explaining the concept of humanitarian standards. Sphere promoted the launch of the Child Protection Minimum Standards' second edition, which is available online as part of the Interactive Handbook together with the Minimum Economic Recovery Standards and the Minimum Standard for Market Analysis. The HSP was represented at four major international events, including a joint Training of Trainers session in Bangkok in November 2019.



7,000
views of
animated
HSP video



6,500
downloads
of the HSP
mobile
application



4.8/5
average rating
of the HSP
mobile
application



2/3
of app users are
in Africa, Asia,
Central/South
America and the
Middle East

We kept the humanitarian community informed and engaged

Sphere increased its visibility and reach across the humanitarian community, producing and disseminating regular updates on quality and accountability through digital platforms and key events. Sphere co-produced content with users of the standards, releasing 15 informative news pieces and eight opinion pieces.



16,000
followers on
Facebook,
8,000 on Twitter,
1,000 on LinkedIn



100,000
database
contacts



148,000
website users

We believe that people affected by crisis must be at the centre of decisions about humanitarian protection, assistance, recovery and resilience

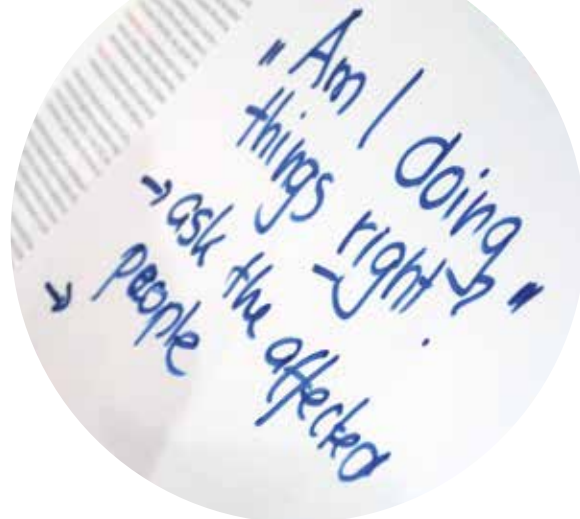


A worldwide community which brings together and empowers practitioners to improve the quality and accountability of humanitarian assistance. Sphere members play an active role in the future of Sphere standards.

Management 2019

"I am excited to join Sphere at this time when the complexity and scale of disasters and conflicts around the world demand high quality concerted responses from all humanitarian actors. Sphere's role as a global network and catalyst for humanitarian quality and accountability remains paramount."

Dr Balwant Singh, Sphere Executive Director



SPHERE TEAM

Dr Balwant Singh
Executive Director¹

Romain Benicchio
Partnerships Director

Tristan Hale
Learning and Development

Wassila Mansouri
Membership and Network

Aninia Nadig
Policy and Practice

Barbara Sartore
Communications

Loredana Serban
Finance and Operations



SPHERE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ACT Alliance (Alwynn Javier)

BIFERD
(Jonas Habimana Seruvugu)

Caritas Internationalis
(Suzanna Tkalec, Vice President)

Concern Worldwide
(Ros O'Sullivan)

Humanitarian Standards Partnership (Sonya Salanti)²

International Council of Voluntary Agencies - ICVA (Ignacio Packer)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - IFRC
(Nelson Castano, Treasurer)

Plan International
(Colin Rogers, President)

RedR International (Tanaji Sen)

Save the Children
(Michelle Brown)³

Somalia NGO Consortium
(Nasra Ali Ismail)

Sphere India (Vikrant Mahajan)

Sphere is grateful to its members and donors:

Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DANIDA)

German Ministry of Foreign Affairs

International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)

United States Department of State, Bureau of Population and Migration (PRM)

United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)



¹ Christine Knudsen until September 2019

² Minja Peuschel until September 2019

³ Rohan Kent until December 2019

Photo credits

Community World Service Asia;
Sphere focal points in China.

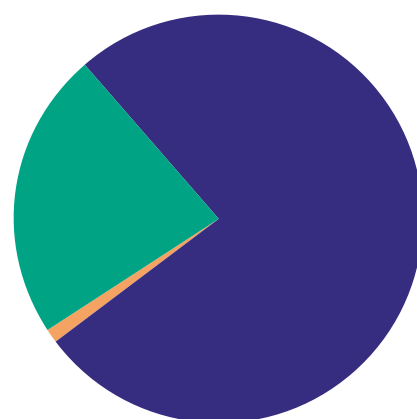
Statement of Income and Expenses

01.01.2019 to 31.12.2019 with comparative year figures in Swiss francs

	2019	2018
INCOME		
Board contributions and donations		
Membership fees	298,330	292,975
Denmark - Ministry of Foreign Affairs	72,525	-
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)	150,000	-
German Ministry of Foreign Affairs	143,288	288,113
US Department of State, Bureau of Population and Migration (PRM)	277,171	334,520
OFDA (USAID - Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance)	319,391	304,038
International Federation Red Cross (IFRC)	40,000	120,000
Australia - DFAT	-	149,536
Other general grants and donations	13,259	40,025
Total Board contributions and donations	1,313,964	1,529,207
Other income		
Handbook sales	19,667	15,613
Miscellaneous income	5,971	1
Total other income	25,638	15,614
TOTAL INCOME	1,339,602	1,544,822

Percentage of income

■ Membership 22% ■ Institutional donors 76%



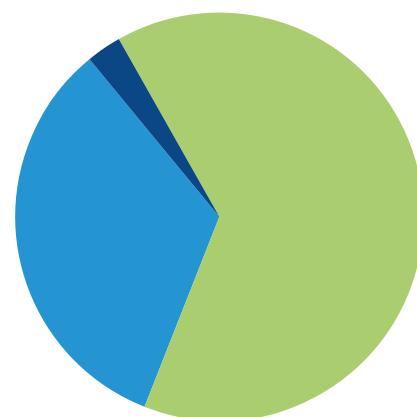
■ Other income 2%

EXPENSES

Handbook direct sales expenses	-39,994	-105,463
Personnel expenses	-881,247	-829,565
Premises charges	-89,927	-97,867
Administration and office costs	-3,971	-2,477
IT expenses	-9,035	-14,852
Professional fees	-75,817	-79,492
Consultancies & development fees	-377,315	-451,590
Travel, representation & meetings	-46,187	-43,882
Loss on receivables	-	-3,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	-1,523,493	-1,628,188

Percentage of expenses

■ Handbook direct sales expenses 3% ■ Operations 64%



■ Programmes 33%

NET OPERATING RESULT	-183,891	-83,366
Financial income	3,550	11,313
Financial expenses	-12,546	-10,783
NET RESULT BEFORE CHANGES IN RESTRICTED FUNDS	-192,887	-82,836
Allocation to restricted funds	-812,375	-1,209,675
Use of restricted funds	1,019,175	1,312,248
NET RESULT before allocations	13,913	19,736
Allocation to operational reserve and specific project balances	-26,066	-60,000
Use of operational reserve and specific project balances	13,575	41,288
NET RESULT FOR THE YEAR	1,422	1,024

"It's an exciting time for Sphere as we update our strategy, looking to the future and to the role Sphere can play in the humanitarian sector."

Colin Rogers, Sphere president



“When a disaster strikes and we need to do a rapid evaluation, Sphere forms the backbone of that assessment. Sphere gives us the same vocabulary, the same standards, and an evaluative frame of reference that does not require debate or discussion when time is of the essence.”

Patrick Melancon,
Director of Disaster Response and Training,
Baptist Global Response



Sphere is a global community of purpose and practice that brings together frontline practitioners, humanitarian agencies, community organisations, trainers, donors, policy makers, government agencies and affected communities, around a common goal – to improve the resilience of, and outcomes for, people affected by disaster and crisis.

Sphere believes that people affected by crisis must be at the centre of decisions about humanitarian protection, assistance, recovery and resilience.

Sphere establishes, promotes and reviews quality standards for humanitarian action which provide an accountable framework for preparedness, resource allocation, response, monitoring and advocacy, before, during and after disasters and crises.



Sphere

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