Relating MEAL and Sphere

**Key references and citations form Sphere supporting MEAL**

**Monitoring:** Some of the key references from the Sphere Handbook supporting monitoring include:

* page 10 – **Overview statement** on monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning
* page 22–23 – **Checklist** for cash–based assistance (highlights monitoring)
* page 59 – **CHS commitment 2**, GN, “Monitoring activities, outputs and outcomes”
* page 73 – **CHS** **commitment 7**, KA 7.1 “Design monitoring systems that are simple and accessible, recognising that information should be representative of different groups…”
* page 87 – **References and further reading** on monitoring
* page 199 – **Food assistance standard 6.1**, GN, “Monitoring and access to food”
* page 208 – **Food assistance standard 6.3**, GN, “Monitoring of distribution and delivery”

**Evaluation:** Some of the key references from the Sphere Handbook supporting evaluation include:

* page 10 – **Overview statement** on monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning
* page 73 – **CHS commitment 7**, “Communities and people affected by crisis can expect delivery of improved assistance as organisations learn from experience and reflection.”
* page 74 – **KA 7.4**, “Evaluation and learning policies are in place, and means are available to learn from experience and improve practice.”
* page 75 – **GN “Evaluations”** (definition and application)
* page 76 – **GN “Evaluation and learning policies”**

**Accountability:** Some of the key references from the Sphere Handbook supporting accountability include:

* page 10 – **Overview** **statement** on monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning
* page 388 – **CoC principle 9** “We hold ourselves accountable to both those we seek to assist and those from whom we accept resources.”
* page 63 – **CHS commitment 4** “Communities and people affected by crisis know their rights and entitlements, have access to information and participate in decisions that affect them.”
* page 63 – **Criterion** “Humanitarian response is based on communication, participation and feedback.”
* page 63 – **PI 3** “Communities and people affected by crisis are satisfied with the opportunities they have to influence the response.”
* page 63 – **KA 4.1** “Provide information to communities and people affected by crisis about the organisation, the principles it adheres to, how it expects its staff to behave, the programmes it is implementing and what they intend to deliver.”
* page 66 – **CHS commitment 5**, **Criterion** “complaints are welcomed and addressed.”

**Learning:** Some of the key references from the Sphere Handbook supporting learning include:

* page 10 – **Overview statement** on monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning
* page 73 – **CHS commitment 7**: “Communities and people affected by crisis can expect delivery of improved assistance as organisations learn from experience and reflection: as a result of the learning generated in the current response.”
* page 73 – **PIs 1–3** – “Improvements are made to assistance and protection interventions.”
* page 73 – **KA 7.1** “Draw on lessons learned and prior experience when designing programmes.”
* page 74 – **KA 7.2** “Learn, innovate and implement changes on the basis of monitoring, evaluation, feedback and complaints.”
* page 74 – **KA 7.4** (Organisational responsibility) “Evaluation and learning policies are in place, and means are available to learn from experience and improve practices.”