

## Briefing Note: Stories of Hope

### Purpose:

The purpose of the Stories of Hope is to share inspiring stories of the work of ACT Alliance members, forums, advisory groups and communities of practice that demonstrate Hope in Action through their humanitarian, development and advocacy work.

### Optional / Compulsory:

It is optional for all ACT members, forums, advisory groups and communities of practice to submit one or more Stories of Hope.

### Who can get involved?

Stories of Hope may be submitted by:

- Individual members
- Communities of Practice
- Advisory Groups
- Forums

### Description:

Stories of Hope can be short (~2 minute) videos or written stories (~500 words) that describe the impact of ACT members', CoPs', forums' or advisory groups' work in communities. Stories of Hope are meant to concretely demonstrate the assembly theme of *Hope in Action: Putting People First*, and to inspire others with the work of ACT Alliance. Stories of Hope will be shared throughout the year on the ACT Assembly website, ACT social media, during the Assembly, etc. They will highlight a broad range of activities including humanitarian, development and advocacy work from around the world, dealing with themes of concern to the alliance, including gender, climate change, migration, and more.

The story should introduce the context/situation, describe the intervention strategy, and the results of the intervention. More simply, what was the problem, what was done about it, and how are things better?

### Technical Guidelines:

**Text stories** should be submitted as Word documents with 2-3 photographs as SEPARATE jpg attachments (not embedded in the Word document).

**Videos** should be filmed using the following specifications:

If using a semi/professional video camera – please follow the following technical guidelines:

1080p

24fps

1/48-1/50 shutter speed

.avi or .mov file

USE A LAVELIER (LAV) MIC PLEASE (audio is key)

Double check the lights (avoid strong shadows on the speaker's face).

If using a smart phone – please see the below guidelines.

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<p><b>5</b> things YOU SHOULD <b>CARE</b> about when filming with your</p> 	<p><b>1</b> <b>AUDIO IS KEY</b></p>  <p>Microphones in smartphones are not good enough. Try to record in a quiet place but please avoid closed rooms that can make an echo</p>	<p><b>2</b> <b>YOU NEED LIGHT</b></p>  <p>Observe the main source of light and use it to illuminate your subject. Never place your subject in front of windows</p>
<p><b>3</b> <b>FRAME RIGHT</b></p>  <p>We usually film horizontally and use the "Rule of Thirds". Place your subject in one of these two positions before you start filming</p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>NO SELFIE</b></p>  <p>If you have to film yourself, please ask someone to help. Selfies have their own purpose, but are not always appropriate</p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>DON'T SHAKE</b></p>  <p>It would be great if you have a tripod but if not possible, ask the person who will record you to support their arms somewhere</p>

Communication tips Icon by The Noun Project

**Contact:** For more information about submitting one or more Stories of Hope, please contact Simon Chambers, Head of Communications (simon.chambers@actalliance.org).