

LOCAL is a regional initiative that supports local and national NGOs in West Africa by strengthening their internal systems, and subsequently, increasing their access to funding.

Duplicated Burden



Every donor and international partner requires its own due diligence assessment before funding an organisation. These assessments request largely overlapping information, are frequently repeated, and slow access to funding and partnerships. While duplication of Due Diligence Assessments (DDA) is a systemic inefficiency affecting all parties, **it burdens disproportionately on local/national NGOs**, posing major challenges to the Localisation Agenda.

Solution: Passporting



LOCAL sets out to test whether existing rigorous assessments (notably CHS audits) can serve as trusted inputs for other due diligence processes. This approach is known as Passporting. Passporting enables an organisation to reuse reliable, previously validated due diligence information, instead of repeating a full assessment.

Passporting relies on...

- Methodological transparency when producing the information
- A shared understanding of robustness
- Controlled and consent-based data exchange

Passporting respects organisational autonomy, as:

- Each actor keeps its own criteria
- Each actor maintains control of risk decisions
- It applies only where there is adequate evidence

Passporting is piloted to examine...

- Which due diligence requirements are already covered
- What additional information must be collected
- Level of acceptances among INGOs and funding partners

What is CHS audits?

HQAI's audits against the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS):

- Assess organisational systems that are central to quality, accountability and safeguarding
- Are independent, evidence-based, and delivered under an ISO-accredited certification scheme (ISO 17065)
- Are already recognised by several donors as credible assurance inputs

CHS audits provide a high-robustness basis to test passporting in a real operational context.

Piloting LOCAL



During the pilot stage (2024 - 2025), by partnering with 10 national NGOs in Burkina Faso and applying CHS audits, LOCAL managed to:

- Compare against due diligence frameworks of participating INGOs
- Identify overlaps, gaps and required adaptations
- Develop **a shared digital platform** to enable controlled data exchange

The Passporting Platform



The Passporting platform, developed after piloting LOCAL, provides a central, structured space for collecting and managing due diligence evidence, helping organisations strengthen transparency and accountability across their operations. **It brings together different due diligence requirements within a common data framework**, making information easier to compare and analyse. Each data source is assigned a robustness score, helping users understand the reliability of the evidence provided. Access to information is managed through a permission-based system, ensuring that assessed organisations retain control over who can view their data. Users can also filter and review results by thematic area, assessment date and status, or robustness — making the platform an effective tool for supporting informed, responsible decision-making.

Key Platform Features

Data Entry	Due Dilligence results and CHS audit findings uploaded to structured fields
Mapping Engine	Links assessment results to donor/INGO criteria
Robustness Score	Displays reliability of each information source
Access Control	Organisations choose what to share and with whom
Export	Output aligned to donor formats

Robustness Scores

Information sources (e.g., self-assessment, internal audit, external audit) are classified according to their methodological reliability.

This enables organisations to make informed and trusted decisions, rather than automatic acceptance.

Added Value



The platform also enables donors and INGOs to **streamline due diligence process** by requesting only information relevant to their criteria and understanding the reliability of evidence through robustness scores. This approach makes due diligence faster, reduces duplication, and lowers the administrative burden for all partners.

Strategically, the platform supports faster and fairer funding processes, fosters more equal partnerships with local actors, and enables better-targeted capacity strengthening. As adoption grows, it drives sector-wide efficiency and shared learning.

Future Upscaling



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In the long term, the platform aims to scale into **a multi-actor passporting ecosystem** that reduces duplication, expands equitable access to funding, and strengthens evidence-based capacity development. Achieving this vision requires a modern, scalable data architecture, secure and granular access control, a flexible mapping engine, and future integration of AI-assisted data retrieval and risk analysis.