Improvement Analysis
CBM International 2019 Report

Sustainability of your work (B1)
Sustainability underlies the Programme Quality Framework, which supports achieving lasting change. It is stated that all projects in CBM “are regularly monitored and evaluated to document sustainability or challenges in achieving it”. No details of the monitoring progress are provided, nor of how the process is being improved. No examples of monitoring reports are included/linked.

CBM focuses on supporting local organisations to achieve lasting change. Partners’ sustainability is assessed, and support is provided when needed by CBM. A project in Sri Lanka is provided as an example to illustrate CBM approach and impact.

The report does not mention the 2018 evaluation synthesis report (mentioned in B2) findings on sustainability. While the synthesis report judges the relevance and effectiveness of CBM projects as ‘very good’, the evaluation team concludes that ‘overall, sustainability of CBM’s projects to show room for improvement’. The Evaluation Synthesis 2018 and the CHS Self Assessment both point to the need to improve exit strategies. The next CBM accountability report could usefully show whether/how the management has addressed these findings.

Responsible stewardship for the environment (C5)
The Programme Quality Framework includes a commitment to “Environmental Responsibility” which seeks to minimise negative environmental impact of CBM’s operations and to pursue initiatives with a positive impact on the environment.

The response acknowledges the intersection of disability-inclusion and environmental factors and lists two initiatives CBM is involved with other actors addressing that intersectionality. According to the Programme Quality Framework,
CBM-I is due to strengthen its attention to Environmental Responsibility by implementing an Environment Policy and Guideline, which could be referenced in the next report if complete.

The reporting omits quantitative reporting on CBM-I environmental performance, for example, its carbon footprint, or any plans to report such data or to improve environmental performance.

For reference, ChildFund New Zealand’s latest report (pp. 17) provides a good example on reporting environmental impact of operations, and a strong approach to responsible stewardship of the environment.

People and partners have gained capacities that last beyond your immediate intervention (E4)

The report states that this has been covered in B1 but no information of substance on capacity development is provided there, apart from the Sri Lanka example.

The panel suggests to look into CIVICUS’ accountability report pp. 17-19 as an example of a strong response to this question.

Evidence regarding the root causes of the problems you address (F1)

Evidence is gathered through programmatic work and the technical expertise present in CBM. Three questions are listed, which are key in prioritising CBM’s advocacy work.

The response also outlines how the advocacy framework is set and the current focus on inclusion in several areas, such education and health. A comprehensive list of foundation and strategy documents is included, forming the basis of CBM-I advocacy positions, which are then focused on specific advocacy topics.

The report provides no explanation of how the process of the assessment of root causes works other than stating ‘through programme work and technical expertise CBM gather evidence on root causes’.

Stakeholders support your advocacy work and value changes achieved (F2)
As mentioned previously, CBM’s programmes are implemented by partner organisations. People with disabilities are involved to ensure CBM advocacy work aligns with their needs and values.

The report does not explain how partners engage people with disabilities in advocacy messaging or how their representatives engage with the CBM advocacy team.

ChildFund New Zealand latest report (pp. 22-23) provides examples of engaging stakeholders in advocacy work.