

IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team Work Plan
January 2018 - December 2019
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The Humanitarian Financing Task Team (HFTT) brings IASC members together to collectively define guidance for a better system to finance humanitarian action. The HFTT 2018-2019 work plan focuses on the following objectives:

1. Closing the funding gap for humanitarian action through:
 - Developing the system-wide resource mobilization and outreach strategy
 - Researching and facilitating innovative financing solutions
2. Improving the financing system through:
 - Exploring issues of earmarking, localization, accessibility and multi-year financing
 - Reviewing contractual arrangements (conditionality) and risk sharing
 - Ensuring appropriate transparency of funding flows
3. Strengthening the humanitarian development collaboration and supporting the development of country-level financing strategies

The HFTT works in close collaboration with other platforms including the Grand Bargain workstreams and the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) initiative. The HFTT contributes to the research on new approaches and formulates joint positions on specific technical issues related to humanitarian financing; while the Grand Bargain negotiates transformations with donors towards the system-wide efficiency and effectiveness gains.

NB: This work plan was developed during the HFTT retreat on 24 and 25 January in Geneva and has been refined through a round of meetings and consultations on specific activities.

Output #1: Promote system-wide approaches to closing the funding gap			
Activities	Focal Points	Timeframe	Complementarity
1.1 Develop Resource Mobilisation and Outreach strategy to influence decision-makers to sufficiently resource humanitarian action and close the funding gap	Lead: OCHA/RMB, UN Women, ICVA Support: UNFPA, WFP, NRC	2018: Q2 - Q4 2019: Q1 - Q4	
1.2 Launch learning lab for peer-to-peer information exchange on benefits and risks of innovative financing	Lead: ICVA, Mercy Malaysia Support: OCHA, DI, FAO, ICRC, IFRC, WFP, Education Cannot Wait	2018: Q4 2019: Q1 - Q4	

Supporting Studies:

Study	Authoring Agency	Corresponding HFTT activity	Expected completion date
Study on the consequences of underfunded UN-coordinated appeals	DI	1.1	

Output #2: More effective, efficient and accessible humanitarian funding

Activities	Focal Points	Timeframe	Complementarity
2.1 Conduct a follow up study on pooled funds exploring issues of earmarking, localization, access and capacity	Lead: NRC, OCHA/FCS Support: CAFOD, CARE, Oxfam, IFRC	Q4 2018 and Q1 and Q2 2019	Grand Bargain earmarking workstream
2.2 Develop the business case for multi-year funding (outlining added value of and/or arguments for multi-year funding) and develop definitions informing tracking of multi-year funding.	Lead: FAO, NRC Support: DI, OCHA/APMB, UNICEF	Q1 2019	Grand Bargain multi-year funding workstream
2.3 Map donor visibility/recognition needs in connection to un-earmarked funding (including best practices and case studies from HFTT member organizations)	Lead: UNICEF, ICRC Support: OCHA/CERF, ICVA		Grand Bargain earmarking workstream
2.4 Develop a short guidance note for IASC members on ways to support country-level financing solutions for local actors, based on existing learning and research (for advocacy by HFTT and for local/national organizations' use).	Lead: OXFAM Support: CAFOD, CARE, Christian Aid, IFRC, OCHA/FCS	Q2: concluding in June	Grand Bargain localization workstream

Output #3: Improved contractual arrangements and management of risk across the humanitarian system

Activities	Focal Points	Timeframe	Complementarity
3.1. Continue support for the UN harmonization process, including survey work on Partnership Agreement, and a follow-up joint workshop with UN and NGOs.	Lead: ICVA Support: NRC	PA Survey, May 2018	Grand Bargain workstream on reducing duplication and management costs
3.2 Map existing studies and initiatives on risk management	Lead: ICVA, WFP Support: NRC		Link with PHA reference group, NRC risk transfer/sharing work, InterAction study on risk transfer
3.3 Develop HFTT key messages/position paper on risk management. Design concrete tools and methodologies for the harmonization of cost classification and financial reporting.	Lead: ICVA, Others TBD following completion of 3.2		Grand Bargain workstream on reducing duplication and management costs

Output #4: Contribute to aid effectiveness by strengthening humanitarian-development collaboration in particular in fragile contexts and protracted crises

Sub-output	Activities	Focal Points	Timeframe	Complementarity
4.1 Understand financial gaps and highlight opportunities	4.1.1 Case studies: (Up to 5 country contexts where joined up approaches are being pursued) map financial flows, facilitate in-country discussions with country teams, and produce recommendations.	Lead: FAO, NRC Support: UNDP, World Bank, ICVA, (suggest having support from OCHA FCS)	Q4 2018 – Q1 and Q2 2019	HDN TT including CoPN OECD MPTFO Grand Bargain work stream 7 Principle Humanitarian Action Reference Group JSC, IASC Principals, GHD, RC/HC
4.2 Contribute to a common understanding among humanitarian and development actors to widen the financing base.	4.2.1 Produce a paper translating cross-cutting learning from case studies into recommendations for global policy discussion on the nexus and share findings with decision makers and practitioners	Lead: FAO, NRC FAO, World Bank, UNDP, NRC, ICVA, OCHA	2019	

Output #5: Improved decision-making by increasing the transparency of funding data

Activities	Focal Points	Timeframe	Complementarity
5.1 Develop guidelines on IATI and FTS reporting (including downstream reporting) to fulfil IASC transparency requirements and expectations	Lead: DI, OCHA/FTS		Grand Bargain transparency workstream
5.2 Following the endorsement by IASC HFTT of the “localisation definitions”, members will study lessons learned from OCHA’s pilot project of classifying organisations recorded in FTS. Specifically, HFTT will consider the appropriateness and feasibility of developing a system-wide process of classifying organisations. If deemed appropriate, HFTT will develop recommendations on the next steps in consultation with the Grand Bargain localization workstream.	Lead: OCHA/FTS, OCHA/FCS, OCHA/CERF Support: IFRC	Q3 2018 – Q1 2019	Grand Bargain localization workstream