

2016 IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team Progress Report

HFTT's 2016/2017 work plan has four objectives:

1. Adequate humanitarian financing that is context appropriate and accessible to operational organizations on the ground
2. Re-negotiate restrictive donor requirements
3. Contribute to aid effectiveness by reducing the humanitarian/development divide
4. Improve transparency through strengthening empirical knowledge base on funding flows

General Achievements

- Served as a discussion and information exchange forum on humanitarian financing between **UN Agencies, IOM, NGOs, the World Bank and Red Cross/Red Crescent**.
- Worked as a forum providing technical inputs and advise on the organisation of **World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) High Level Panel on Financing**.
- Contributed financing-related technical inputs towards the **Grand Bargain (GB)**.
- Strengthened the **cooperation between IASC and GHD** through effective information exchange, participation by co-chairs of HFTT and GHD in annual retreats of the two groups and organisation of the joint **side event on financing during the 2016 ECOSOC Humanitarian Segment**.
- Facilitated **cooperation and information exchange between key humanitarian financing fora** through mapping interlinkages on specific activities and facilitating complementarity on humanitarian financing issues (please see the map of interlinkages between HFTT and other groups in the annex).

Adequate Humanitarian Financing

- OCHA-FCS and ICVA work on a study to explore ways for country-level **Partner Capacity Assessments** to become more inter-operable, in line with the Grand Bargain commitment to reduce management costs.
- Several HFTT members have been carrying out analyses on making **funding for local actors more adequate and accessible**. The HFTT will map out their findings, test them in selected country contexts, and develop a "Framework for Change" to be validated in a workshop in Kuala Lumpur in fall of 2017.
- HFTT formed a technical inter-agency group under the leadership of CAFOD, Development Initiatives and OCHA-FCS to develop the **localisation marker**. Initial paper on the concept, scope and potential parameters has been developed. The group currently works on refining the definitions of 'local and national responders' and 'as direct as possible' funding to ensure that they are implementable across the humanitarian system. The group aims at completing the proposal for implementation of the localisation marker by the end of 2017.
- Study on **Multi-Year Planning** commissioned by OCHA has been completed and study on **Multi-Year Funding (MYF)** commissioned by FAO, NRC and OCHA has been launched. The MYF study aims at capturing evidence of value added, best practices and innovations associated with MYF. Preliminary findings are expected by June 2017.

Re-negotiating Restrictive Donor Requirements

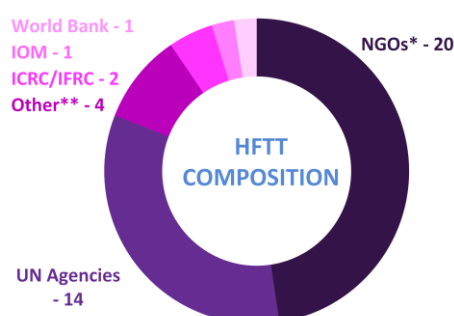
- HFTT finalised and published the [Donor Conditions and their Implications for Humanitarian Response](#) study and presented its findings to the IASC Working Group and the GHD.
- Published the findings of the [Less Paper More Aid](#) campaign, which was an NGO initiative aiming at identifying the impact of donor conditions on humanitarian action and on NGOs. Presented the findings of the campaign to UN Agencies and Member States at a Grand Bargain experts meeting and "NGO Forward" briefing.
- Identified key emerging messages for the light **advocacy strategy on donor conditions** drawing from the GB and building on the findings of the Donor Conditions study (UNFPA and WFP), Less Paper More Aid campaign (ICVA) and Donor Conditionalities study (NRC and BCG).
- Survey mapping out various **donor-conditions related initiatives** has been carried out. Several HFTT members have volunteered to test with donors the **new 10+3 approach to harmonized reporting** in selected countries. The pilot will be launched on 24 March in Berlin.

Reducing the Humanitarian/Development Divide

- The co-chairs of **HFTT and Humanitarian/Development Nexus Task Team (HDNTT)** have met in August and begun exploring **synergies and future collaboration** between the two groups. It was agreed that the two TTs will work closely together on issues of hum/dev nexus, will share key information on regular basis and will assign selected staff to participate in each other's retreats.
- The HFTT engaged with **UNDG Working Group on Transitions** on financing issues related to the humanitarian/development nexus.
- The HFTT is currently developing shared narrative on approaches, comparative advantages and contributions to **collective humanitarian/development outcomes**.
- HFTT plans to map the **financial flows and pooled funding mechanisms** (by country), which support the humanitarian/development nexus.
- HFTT will work in 2017 on the development of a concept note on addressing **financial fragmentation** and a proposal for country-level financing assessments.
- HFTT will contribute to the **engagement on financing in the next UNDG-IASC retreat** and will engage with **MPTF office in the work on financing solutions**.

Improving Transparency of Funding Flows

- Drafts of the **key messages and technical guidelines on IATI and FTS** are currently being finalised and will be circulated for comments by the end of February. The key messages will be finalised by the end of March and will be disseminated widely thereafter. The technical guidelines will be tested with a group of the GB early adopting agencies and finalised by the end of 2017.
- The inter-agency technical group on **FTS policy** met in 2016 to discuss formalising reporting. The group will reconvene to continue working on **transparency and reporting to FTS** in 2017.
- The transparency work stream will continue to coordinate its activities with the work stream on restrictive donor requirements within the HFTT to ensure synergies between **improving transparency while simultaneously reducing and harmonising reporting requirements**.



* Includes four NGO consortia: ICVA, InterAction, SCHR and Start Network; together representing hundreds of NGOs world-wide.

Co-Chairs: Lisa Doughten (OCHA) and Melissa Pitotti (ICVA)
WG Sponsor: Gordana Jerger (WFP)
Secretariat: Mateusz Buczek (OCHA)